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**Commission on Narcotic Drugs**

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**Implementation of the international drug control treaties:  
changes in the scope of control of substances**

**Changes in the scope of control of substances****Note by the Secretariat***Summary*

The present document contains recommendations for action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs pursuant to the international drug control treaties.

In accordance with the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, article 17, paragraph 2, the Commission will have before it for consideration a proposal from the World Health Organization (WHO) concerning recommendations to place four substances under international control: 2C-B, 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem. In accordance with article 2, paragraphs 1 and 4, of the 1971 Convention, WHO recommends that 2C-B be included in Schedule II, 4-MTA in Schedule I, and GHB and zolpidem in Schedule IV of that Convention.

In accordance with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, article 12, paragraph 13, which calls on the Commission to review periodically the adequacy and propriety of Tables I and II, the Commission will examine a recommendation by the International Narcotics Control Board, pursuant to article 12, paragraph 2, of the 1988 Convention, that the substances acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate be transferred from Table II to Table I of that Convention.

Pursuant to the relevant provisions of the 1971 Convention and the 1988 Convention, the Commission may decide on the recommendations of the Board and WHO by a two-thirds majority of its members.

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\* E/CN.7/2001/1.



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# **I. Consideration of a notification from the World Health Organization concerning scheduling under the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971**

1. Pursuant to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>1</sup> article 2, paragraphs 1 and 4, the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) notified the Secretary-General that WHO was of the opinion that 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenylethylamine (2C-B) should be included in Schedule II, 4-methylthioamphetamine (4-MTA) in Schedule I, and gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB) and zolpidem (INN) in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention (see annex I).

2. In accordance with the provisions of article 2, paragraph 2, of the 1971 Convention, the Secretary-General transmitted by a note dated 2 November 2000 to all Governments the text of the notification, together with all the information submitted by WHO in support of that notification. In response to that note, the following 21 States had provided, as of 26 January 2001, economic, social, legal, administrative or other factors relevant to the possible scheduling of the four substances: Australia, Austria, Bahrain, China, Colombia, Estonia, Germany, India, Ireland, Japan, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, Oman, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Turkey and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

3. The Government of Australia reported that zolpidem was available but was not under national control, and indicated that import and export licences and permits had been required for 2C-B, 4-MTA and GHB since 1999, and that they had no legitimate therapeutic use in the country. No data on seizures or information on illicit manufacture of those substances were available. The Government of Austria had no objection to the inclusion of the substances 4-MTA, 2C-B and zolpidem in, respectively, schedules I, II and IV of the 1971 Convention. The Government of Austria would also support the inclusion of GHB in Schedule IV. The Government of Bahrain indicated that no seizures of 2C-B, 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem had been reported, nor had clandestine laboratories been detected. The Government of China reported that

2C-B, 4-MTA and GHB were neither manufactured nor imported, indicating that only zolpidem had been manufactured and was recently available in the country. Neither abuse nor the existence of clandestine laboratories was reported by the Government of China. The Government of Colombia supported the inclusion of 2C-B in Schedule II, 4-MTA in Schedule I, and GHB and zolpidem in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention. In Estonia, the Government had already placed 2C-B and GHB under national control. It also reported five seizures of 2C-B (totalling 476 grams) in 1998 and 12 seizures of GHB (totalling 963 grams) in 2000. The Government of Germany reported that 2C-B and 4-MTA were already under national control. GHB was not a controlled substance, but was considered dangerous because of its abuse as "liquid Ecstasy". Zolpidem was not under national control and was available for the short-term treatment of insomnia symptoms. The inclusion of zolpidem in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention was advisable. The Government of India indicated that only zolpidem was marketed in its territory and that neither seizures nor clandestine laboratories were reported. The Government of Ireland indicated that 2C-B and GHB were controlled substances, while legislation was currently being drafted to include 4-MTA under national control. The Government of Ireland notified that, in the case of zolpidem, there was evidence of its abuse in Ireland, and that the substance was currently controlled under the medicinal products regulations. Tighter control over zolpidem and its preparations was welcomed, and the Government would also favour stricter controls on the related product zopiclone. The Government of Japan indicated that 2C-B and Zolpidem are under national control as narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, respectively, while 4-MTA and GHB are not controlled substances. The seizure of 203 tablets and 3 capsules of 2C-B was reported in 2000; there was no data on seizure of 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem. While 2C-B, 4-MTA and GHB were not used for medical purposes, zolpidem was manufactured as a compound for treating insomnia. The Government of Mauritius noted that there was no evidence of the availability of the substances 2C-B, 4-MTA and GHB. Zolpidem was being commercialized in that country, but following reports of abuse it had been listed among the nationally controlled substances. The Government of Mexico reported that zolpidem and 2C-B were already under

national control. GBH and 4-MTA were neither imported nor commercialized in Mexico, but the Ministry of Health considered it important to include them among the controlled substances. No clandestine laboratories were detected by the Mexican authorities. The Government of Myanmar indicated that none of the four substances were available and no seizures or clandestine laboratories were reported. The Government of Oman supported the scheduling of all four substances. The Government of Portugal indicated that no seizures of 2C-B, 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem were reported, nor were clandestine laboratories detected. The Government of the Republic of Moldova indicated that the four substances were not available and no seizures or clandestine laboratories were reported. The Government of Spain observed that 2C-B, 4-MTA and GHB had no therapeutic use in its territory and were not contained in any pharmaceutical products. Zolpidem was used in the preparation of some medicinal products, but there was no evidence of its abuse. The proposal of WHO to include the four substances in the schedules of the 1971 Convention was supported. The Government of Switzerland approved the recommendations made by WHO to include 2C-B, 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem in the schedules of the 1971 Convention. The Government of Tajikistan indicated that there were no records of 2C-B, 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem, nor of the existence of clandestine laboratories. The Government of Turkey considered the inclusion of 4-MTA, 2C-B, GHB and zolpidem in the relevant schedules of the 1971 Convention as useful. The Government of the United Kingdom reported that 2C-B was already under national control, while 4-MTA will be included in the course of 2001. Zolpidem was a prescription medicine, used as a hypnotic, and the United Kingdom authorities were not aware of its illicit manufacture. GHB is not licensed as a medicinal product in the United Kingdom. However, its importation, manufacture, sale and supply fall within the scope of the medicines legislation as it is regarded as an unlicensed "medicinal product". The Medicines Control Agency investigates reports of unlawful manufacture, advertising and sale of GHB, and has brought a number of successful prosecutions in the last few years. GHB exists virtually in equilibrium with its precursor chemical gamma-butyrolactone (GBL). GBL converts easily and also metabolizes to GHB. The Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs felt that, given the nature of the relationship between GHB and GBL, consideration

should also be given to the position of GBL, and that there would be an obvious loophole if controls were introduced on GHB but no action was taken in respect of GBL.

### Action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

4. The notification by the Director-General of WHO is before the Commission for consideration in accordance with the provisions of article 2, paragraph 5, of the 1971 Convention, which reads as follows:

"The Commission, taking into account the communication from the World Health Organization, whose assessments shall be determinative as to medical and scientific matters, and bearing in mind the economic, social, legal, administrative and other factors which may consider relevant, may add the substance to Schedule I, II, III or IV. The Commission may seek further information from the World Health Organization or from other appropriate sources."

5. With regard to the decision-making process, the attention of the Commission is drawn to article 1, paragraph 2, of the 1971 Convention, which stipulates that the "decisions of the Commission provided for in articles 2 and 3 shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the members of the Commission". From a practical point of view, that means that for a decision to be adopted, an affirmative vote of at least 35 members of the Commission is required.

6. The Commission should therefore decide

(a) Whether it wishes to include 4-MTA in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention, or, if not, what other action, if any, is required;

(b) Whether it wishes to include 2C-B in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention, or, if not, what other action, if any, is required;

(c) Whether it wishes to include GHB and zolpidem in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention, or, if not, what other action, if any, is required.

## II. Consideration of two notifications from the International Narcotics Control Board concerning scheduling under the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

7. The United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>2</sup> article 12, paragraph 2, provides as follows:

"If a Party or the Board has information which in its opinion may require the inclusion of a substance in Table I or Table II, it shall notify the Secretary-General and furnish him with the information in support of that notification. The procedure described in paragraphs 2 to 7 of this article shall also apply when a Party or the Board has information justifying the deletion of a substance from Table I or Table II, or the transfer of a substance from one Table to the other."

8. The attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs is drawn to the attached notifications dated 14 December 2000 from the President of the International Narcotics Control Board to the Chairman of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs concerning the transfer of acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention (see annexes II and III). The background assessment, findings and recommendations of the Board with respect to the two substances are attached to annexes II and III.

9. Pursuant to article 12, paragraph 2, of the 1988 Convention, the Board recommends the transfer of acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention.

## Action by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

10. In accordance with article 12, paragraph 5, of the 1988 Convention, the Commission, taking into account the comments submitted by the parties and the comments and recommendations of the Board, whose assessment shall be determinative as to scientific matters, and also taking into due consideration any other relevant factors, may decide by a two-thirds majority of its members to transfer the substances from Table II to Table I of the Convention.

11. The Commission should therefore decide:

(a) Whether it wishes to transfer acetic anhydride from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention, or, if not, what other action, if any, is required;

(b) Whether it wishes to transfer potassium permanganate from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention, or, if not, what other action, if any, is required.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

## **Annex I**

### **Notification dated 4 October 2000 from the Director-General of the World Health Organization to the Secretary-General of the United Nations concerning proposals for international control in respect of 2C-B, 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem**

The Director-General of the World Health Organization presents her compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to submit, in accordance with article 2, paragraphs 1 and 4, of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971, assessments and recommendations of the World Health Organization, attached hereto, concerning proposed international control in respect of 2C-B, 4-MTA, GHB and zolpidem.

## Appendix

### Assessment and recommendations

#### A. 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenylethylamine (2C-B)

##### 1. Substance identification

1. The substance 2C-B is chemically 4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenylethylamine (2-(4-bromo-2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)ethylamine; CAS 66142-81-2). Other names include  $\alpha$ -desmethyl-DOB, BDMPEA, MFT, EroX, Nexus and Performax. There are no chiral centres; therefore, no stereoisomers or racemates are possible.

##### 2. Similarity to known substances and effects on the central nervous system

2. The substance 2C-B has structural and pharmacological similarities to bromamfetamine and mescaline. 2C-B is a selective partial agonist for 5-HT<sub>2A</sub> and 5-HT<sub>2C</sub> serotonin receptors. In humans, 2C-B is more potent than mescaline but less potent than bromamfetamine. In low doses, it has sensory-enhancing effects: skin sensitivity, heightened responsiveness to smells, tastes and sexual stimulation. In higher doses, 2C-B is a strong hallucinogen. It produces particularly marked visual hallucinations with an intense colour play, intriguing patterns emerging on surfaces and distortions of objects and faces. It was reported to enhance sexual feelings, sexual perception and performance.

##### 3. Dependence potential

3. There are no animal or human studies about the dependence potential of 2C-B.

##### 4. Actual abuse and/or evidence of likelihood of abuse

4. In the 1990s, 2C-B was sold as an aphrodisiac in several countries and some abuse of 2C-B has been reported from a number of countries. The reports suggest that 2C-B has modest abuse liability like other hallucinogens. Although hallucinogens are rarely associated with compulsive or dependent use, they are

known to have modest abuse potential, particularly in polydrug abusers.

##### 5. Therapeutic usefulness

5. Apart from the controversial experimental use to facilitate psychotherapy, hallucinogens, such as 2C-B, do not have any therapeutic usefulness.

##### 6. Recommendation

6. Despite the limited availability of studies, the chemical and pharmacological similarity of 2C-B to the hallucinogen mescaline has been demonstrated. The altered state of mind induced by hallucinogens such as 2C-B may result in harm to the user and to others. On the basis of its perceived aphrodisiac effects and the known modest abuse potential of hallucinogenic drugs in general, it is estimated that 2C-B may be so abused as to constitute a public health and social problem warranting its placement under international control. However, hallucinogens are rarely associated with compulsive use, and abuse of 2C-B has been infrequent, suggesting that abuse of 2C-B is likely to constitute a substantial, rather than an especially serious, risk to public health. On those grounds, it is recommended that 2C-B be placed in Schedule II of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.

#### B. 4-methylthioamphetamine (4-MTA)

##### 1. Substance identification

7. The substance 4-MTA is chemically 4-methylthioamphetamine (CAS 14116-06-4). Other names include  $\alpha$ -methyl-4-methylthiophenethylamine, *p*-methylthioamphetamine, 4-MTA, *p*-MTA, MTA, MK, S5, Ss, "flatliner" and "the one and only dominator". The substance 4-MTA has one chiral centre and can exist in two enantiomers and a racemate. Only the racemic mixture has been reported to have been synthesized.

## 2. Similarity to known substances and effects on the central nervous system

8. The substance 4-MTA is a potent serotonin-releasing agent and reversible inhibitor of monoamine oxidase-A, and is structurally similar to 4-methoxyamphetamine. Pharmacologically, it is similar to methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA) and methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA); studies suggest that 4-MTA is six times more potent than MDMA and MDA in inhibiting 5-HT uptake.

## 3. Dependence potential

9. Drug discrimination studies in rats suggest that 4-MTA produces discriminative stimulus effects similar to MDMA. The substance 4-MTA did not substitute for amphetamine, lysergic acid diethylamine (LSD) or phencyclidine. Reports from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland indicate that 4-MTA is abused for its stimulant and euphoric effects similar to MDMA.

## 4. Actual abuse and/or evidence of likelihood of abuse

10. The substance 4-MTA is mainly abused in Europe. It appears that 4-MTA is part of the dance music culture, although its use is relatively less widespread probably because of perceptions by users that the drug is stronger and more harmful than other "club drugs" such as MDMA. The substance 4-MTA has resulted in a number of fatalities and hospital admissions. It appears that toxic effects can be produced directly from the drug, and that the presence of other drugs or alcohol may exacerbate such effects.

## 5. Therapeutic usefulness

11. The substance 4-MTA has no recognized therapeutic use.

## 6. Recommendation

12. The substance 4-MTA is chemically and pharmacologically similar to MDA and MDMA. It is a new synthetic drug that was seized for the first time in 1997. Although evidence of its actual abuse is available only in several countries in Europe, seizures, including those of large quantities reported from a wider range of countries, suggest that the trafficking and abuse of 4-MTA are more widespread than have

been reported. That being the case and on the basis of its similarity to known MDA-type psychotropic substances, as well as data from drug discrimination studies in animals, it is estimated that 4-MTA is likely to be so abused as to constitute a public health and social problem warranting its placement under international control. Taking into consideration that 4-MTA has no recognized therapeutic use and that it has resulted in a number of fatalities, abuse of 4-MTA is estimated to constitute an especially serious risk to public health. It is therefore recommended that 4-MTA be placed in Schedule I of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.

## C. Gamma-hydroxybutyric acid (GHB)

### 1. Substance identification

13. GHB is chemically  $\gamma$ -hydroxybutyric acid (4-hydroxybutyric acid; CAS 591-81-1). GHB usually exists as either the free acid or as the sodium salt. Sodium oxybate (CAS 502-85-2) is a national non-proprietary name for its sodium salt. There are no chiral centres therefore, no stereoisomers or racemates are possible.

### 2. Similarity to known substances and effects on the central nervous system

14. GHB is an endogenous compound and is structurally similar to the neurotransmitter GABA. Pharmacologically, it produces sedative and anaesthetic effects at high doses. Such depressant effects of GHB appear to be associated with its cataleptic effects and are different from those of barbiturates and benzodiazepines. GHB sedation possesses distinct excitatory properties, which may be due to its effect on the dopaminergic system (increase in intracellular neuronal dopamine). GHB has been found to induce anaesthesia (but does not provide pain relief), (slow-wave) sleep, bradycardia, vomiting, random clonic movements, hypothermia, reduction in potassium levels, decrease in ventilatory rate and apnoea. However, the respiratory centre remains sensitive to an increase in carbon dioxide.

### 3. Dependence potential

15. In drug discrimination studies in animals, none of the known abused drugs has the ability to fully substitute for GHB. Morphine, dexamfetamine, LSD and some benzodiazepines produced, at best, partial

substitution. There have been few studies regarding the dependence and abuse potential of GHB. However, during the numerous studies involving administration of GHB to patients at varying concentrations, no dependence has been observed at low doses of GHB. At prolonged high doses, however, a withdrawal syndrome including insomnia, muscular cramping, tremor and anxiety has been noted upon discontinuation in some cases.

#### 4. Actual abuse and/or evidence of likelihood of abuse

16. GHB abuse has been reported in Australia, the United States of America and many countries in Europe. Precursors of GHB, such as  $\gamma$ -butyrolactone and 1,4-butanediol, which are metabolized to GHB in the body, have also been abused. Although initially abused by bodybuilders for its apparent growth-hormone-promoting properties, the more recent primary mode of abuse of GHB worldwide has been for its subjective hypnotic, euphoric and hallucinogenic effects, especially in the context of the dance music culture (i.e. "raves"). Some users have also claimed to use GHB as an alternative to alcohol (for relaxation), as a sexual adjunct, an appetite suppressant and anti-ageing product, and it has also been implicated in cases of sexual assault.

17. It appears that toxic effects can be produced directly from GHB and the presence of other depressant or sedative drugs (e.g. opiates, benzodiazepines, alcohol and barbiturates), and possibly other psychoactive compounds (e.g. amphetamine) may exacerbate the effects of GHB. Hospital admissions and deaths have been linked to GHB ingestion, generally involving the onset of coma and respiratory depression.

#### 5. Therapeutic usefulness

18. GHB has been used as an anaesthetic agent and as an aid to alcohol and opiate withdrawal, primarily in France, Germany and Italy. In the United States and Canada, it is currently under evaluation for the treatment of narcolepsy-associated cataplexy.

#### 6. Recommendation

19. Although GHB is an endogenous compound that exists in the human body, it has psychoactive and toxic effects when administered. The pattern and

consequences of its abuse in a number of countries in Europe and the United States seem to suggest that its liability to abuse constitutes a significant risk to public health. The current easy availability of GHB and some of its precursors has contributed to its recent abuse. The wide availability is likely to be reduced once GHB is placed under international control. On those grounds, it is recommended that GHB be placed in Schedule IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.

### D. Zolpidem (INN)

#### 1. Substance identification

20. Zolpidem is chemically *N,N*,6-trimethyl-2-*p*-tolylimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-3-acetamide (*N,N*,6-trimethyl-2-(4-methylphenyl)imidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridine-3-acetamide; CAS 82626-48-0). Trade names include Ambien, Bikalm, Niotal, Stilnoct and Stilnox.

#### 2. Similarity to known substances and effects on the central nervous system

21. Though chemically different from benzodiazepines, zolpidem produces benzodiazepine-like effects. It acts as an agonist binding with high and low affinity to BZ<sub>1</sub> and BZ<sub>2</sub> receptor subtypes, respectively. It is generally believed to produce relatively greater hypnotic effects than other benzodiazepine-like effects.

#### 3. Dependence potential

22. The results of human laboratory studies suggest that zolpidem and triazolam are generally similar in terms of producing subjective reinforcing effects. As with many of the benzodiazepines, there have been a number of case reports describing withdrawal symptoms after cessation of zolpidem administration. Though withdrawal discomfort does not necessarily lead to compulsive drug-taking (drug dependence) in humans, there are reports of clinically diagnosed cases of drug dependence resulting from a prolonged use of zolpidem.

#### 4. Actual abuse and/or evidence of likelihood of abuse

23. Epidemiological studies indicate that zolpidem is associated with relatively low incidence of abuse.

Sporadic case reports in the scientific literature have indicated that zolpidem is abused, but those cases usually involved patients with histories of drug abuse or chronic psychiatric disorders. Cases of zolpidem overdose requiring emergency treatment have been reported. Death due to zolpidem overdose is rare. Rates of actual abuse of and dependence on zolpidem appear to be similar to those observed for other hypnotic benzodiazepines in Schedule IV. In terms of the numbers of cases of abuse, dependence and withdrawal reported to the WHO adverse drug reaction database, less than 10 benzodiazepines are ranked higher than zolpidem.

#### **5. Therapeutic usefulness**

24. Zolpidem is used for treatment of insomnia in more than 80 countries.

#### **6. Recommendation**

25. Although zolpidem has a somewhat novel neuropharmacological profile relative to classic benzodiazepines, studies of its abuse potential suggest that it may be comparable to that of many benzodiazepines. Furthermore, rates of actual abuse of and dependence on zolpidem in medical use, as well as the risk to public health of its abuse, appear to be similar to those observed for hypnotic benzodiazepines currently placed in Schedule IV. On those grounds, it is recommended that zolpidem be placed in Schedule IV of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.

## Annex II

### **Notification dated 14 December 2000 from the President of the International Narcotics Control Board to the Chairman of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs concerning the transfer of acetic anhydride from Table II to Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988**

1. The President of the International Narcotics Control Board presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and has the honour to inform him that the Board, in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, article 12, paragraphs 4 and 5, has completed its assessment of acetic anhydride for possible transfer from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention.
2. The Board finds that acetic anhydride continues to be frequently used in the illicit manufacture of heroin and that the volume and extent of the illicit manufacture of heroin creates serious public health or social problems, so as to warrant international action. In addition, the Board finds that the use of pre-export notifications, as proven during the current voluntary initiatives, is essential to allow shipments of the substance to be tracked internationally and ultimately to prevent diversions of the substance. The Board is therefore recommending that acetic anhydride be transferred from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention.
3. The assessment, findings and recommendations of the Board in respect of the substance are attached hereto, and have been prepared for submission to the Commission at its forty-fourth session. The information presented has also been published in the reports of the Board for 1999<sup>a</sup> and 2000<sup>b</sup> on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention.

<sup>a</sup> *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1999 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.XI.3).

<sup>b</sup> *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2000 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.01.XI.4).

## Appendix

### Assessment and recommendations

#### A. Background

1. In 1997, the Board recognized that tightened controls were required to prevent the diversion of acetic anhydride, a critical chemical in the illicit manufacture of heroin and one of the original 12 substances scheduled in the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, where it is listed in Table II

2. While the 1988 Convention, in article 12, paragraph 10 (a), makes provision for pre-export notifications to be supplied by Governments of exporting countries to the Governments of importing countries, that provision is mandatory only for the Table I substances. After holding working meetings with competent authorities of the major exporting, importing and manufacturing countries, the Board recommended that some form of pre-export notification should be introduced for both acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate.

3. That recommendation of the Board was endorsed by Governments when the General Assembly, in its resolution S-20/4 B on the control of precursors, adopted on 10 June 1998 at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, requested that the requirements of article 12, paragraph 10 (a), of the 1988 Convention be extended to include acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate. Furthermore, in its resolution 1999/31 of 28 July 1999, the Economic and Social Council, in recognizing the proposals put forward in the Lucknow accord on the adoption of uniform measures to control international trade in precursor and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, requested the Board "to consider the necessary measures, in accordance with article 12 of the 1988 Convention, for the transfer of acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate from Table II to Table I of the Convention".

4. In 1999, the Board carried out a review of acetic anhydride and concluded that information was available that may require the transfer of the substance

from Table II to Table I, and transmitted to the Secretary-General a corresponding notification containing the relevant information at its disposal in February 2000. In accordance with the provisions of article 12, paragraph 3, the Secretary-General transmitted that notification to all Parties and to other countries, requesting their comments concerning the notification and all supplementary information that might assist the Board in carrying out its assessment.

#### B. Assessment

5. Article 12, paragraph 4, of the 1988 Convention stipulates those factors which the Board is to consider when assessing a substance for possible control, or transfer between the Tables, as follows:

"If the Board, taking into account the extent, importance and diversity of the licit use of the substance, and the possibility and ease of using alternate substances both for licit purposes and for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, finds:

"(a) That the substance is frequently used in the illicit manufacture of a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance;

"(b) That the volume and extent of the illicit manufacture of a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance creates serious public health or social problems, so as to warrant international action, it shall communicate to the Commission an assessment of the substance, including the likely effect of adding the substance to either Table I or Table II on both licit use and illicit manufacture, together with recommendations of monitoring measures, if any, that would be appropriate in the light of its assessment."

6. Furthermore, article 12, paragraph 2, of the 1988 Convention states that the "procedure described in paragraphs 2 to 7 of this article shall also apply when a Party or the Board has information justifying the deletion of a substance from Table I or Table II, or the transfer of a substance from one Table to another".

7. In making its assessment of acetic anhydride, in accordance with the above-mentioned paragraphs of the 1988 Convention, the Board had at its disposal the information contained in its notification submitted to the Secretary-General, as well as comments and supplementary information received from Governments pursuant to article 12, paragraph 3. Fifty-one States, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China and the European Commission had responded to the questionnaire sent out by the Secretary-General. The respondents included 11 States that manufactured acetic anhydride and 18 that exported the substance or were trans-shipment points.

8. In conducting the assessment, the Board has taken the following factors into consideration:

(a) Acetic anhydride is manufactured and traded in large volumes to all regions of the world;

(b) Acetic anhydride has a wide variety of licit uses and cannot be easily replaced in commercial processes;

(c) The extensive licit trade patterns of acetic anhydride enable traffickers to target any country in the world as a potential source of diversion for the substance;

(d) The routes of diversion identified for acetic anhydride are diverse;

(e) Acetic anhydride is already under some form of control at the national level in most countries;

(f) The major countries manufacturing and exporting acetic anhydride are complying with General Assembly resolution S-20/4 B on the control of precursors, and are supplying pre-export notifications to countries that have submitted such a request to the Secretary-General;

(g) Two major trans-shipment points, Hong Kong SAR of China and Singapore, are furthermore supplying pre-export notifications for all shipments of acetic anhydride, whether or not the importing country has requested such notification.

## C. Findings

9. In view of the above-mentioned factors, the Board finds that:

(a) The importance of acetic anhydride in illicit manufacture is well established, and it is recognized as being essential in the illicit manufacture of heroin, and as the chemical of choice sought by traffickers. Similarly, the public health and social problems created by heroin remain an issue that warrants international action;

(b) The diversity of the licit trade routes and the large number of countries to which licit trade is carried out offer traffickers the opportunity to divert acetic anhydride from international trade in any country in the world. The use of pre-export notifications, as proven during the current voluntary initiatives, allows shipments to be tracked internationally and ultimately prevents diversions;

(c) Although the volumes of acetic anhydride traded internationally are large, the number of operators conducting international trade and the number of individual transactions for the substance are not so large. Therefore, supplying pre-export notifications would not have an adverse effect on industry and licit trade;

(d) Since the major exporting and trans-shipment countries are already supplying pre-export notifications for shipments of the substance, the introduction of pre-export notifications as a treaty obligation would not place an undue burden on competent authorities;

(e) The transfer of acetic anhydride from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention should not have any adverse effect on the availability of the substance for licit purposes at the national level, as the provisions of article 12, paragraph 10 (a), only concern international trade. Governments are responsible for implementing their own controls at the national level, and those national controls should be structured in a manner that ensures the continuing availability of the substance for licit requirements.

#### **D. Recommendations**

10. The Board finds that the utilization of pre-export notifications as described in article 12, paragraph 10 (a), of the 1988 Convention is required to limit the availability of acetic anhydride to traffickers and subsequently to reduce the quantity of heroin manufactured. Furthermore, the introduction of pre-export notifications as a treaty requirement for the substance will facilitate licit international trade by expediting the clearance of shipments, without adverse effects on the availability of the substance for licit purposes at the national level. The Board therefore recommends that acetic anhydride be transferred from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention.

### Annex III

**Notification dated 14 December 2000 from the President of the International Narcotics Control Board to the Chairman of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs concerning the transfer of potassium permanganate from Table II to Table I of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988**

1. The President of the International Narcotics Control Board presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and has the honour to inform him that the Board, in conformity with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, article 12, paragraphs 4 and 5, has completed its assessment of potassium permanganate for possible transfer from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention.
2. The Board finds that potassium permanganate continues to be frequently used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine and that the volume and extent of the illicit manufacture of cocaine creates serious public health or social problems, so as to warrant international action. In addition, the Board finds that the use of pre-export notifications, as proven during the current voluntary initiatives, is essential to allow shipments of the substance to be tracked internationally and ultimately to prevent diversions of the substance. The Board is therefore recommending that potassium permanganate be transferred from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention.
3. The assessment, findings and recommendations of the Board in respect of the substance are attached hereto and have been prepared for submission to the Commission at its forty-fourth session. The information presented has also been published in the reports of the Board for 1999 and 2000 on the implementation of article 12 of the 1988 Convention.

## Appendix

### Assessment and recommendations

#### A. Background

1. In 1997, the Board recognized that tightened controls were required to prevent the diversion of potassium permanganate, a critical chemical in the illicit manufacture of cocaine. Potassium permanganate was one of 10 substances added, in 1992, to the list of substances scheduled in the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, following a notification by the Government of the United States of America. The substance is listed in Table II of that Convention.

2. While the 1988 Convention, in article 12, paragraph 10 (a), makes provision for pre-export notifications to be supplied by Governments of exporting countries to the Governments of importing countries, that provision is mandatory only for the Table I substances. After holding working meetings with competent authorities of the major exporting, importing and manufacturing countries, the Board recommended that some form of pre-export notification should be introduced for both acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate.

3. That recommendation of the Board was endorsed by Governments when the General Assembly, in its resolution S-20/4 B on the control of precursors, adopted on 10 June 1998 at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, requested that the requirements of article 12, paragraph 10 (a), of the 1988 Convention be extended to include acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate. Furthermore, in its resolution 1999/31 of 28 July 1999, the Economic and Social Council, in recognizing the proposals put forward in the Lucknow accord on the adoption of uniform measures to control international trade in precursor and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, requested the Board "to consider the necessary measures, in accordance with article 12 of the 1988 Convention, for the transfer of acetic anhydride and potassium permanganate from Table II to Table I of the Convention".

4. In 1999, the Board carried out a review of potassium permanganate and concluded that information was available that may require the transfer of the substance from Table II to Table I, and transmitted to the Secretary-General a corresponding notification containing the relevant information at its disposal in February 2000. In accordance with the provisions of article 12, paragraph 3, the Secretary-General transmitted that notification to all Parties and to other countries, requesting their comments concerning the notification and all supplementary information that might assist the Board in carrying out its assessment.

#### B. Assessment

5. Article 12, paragraph 4, of the 1988 Convention stipulates those factors which the Board is to consider when assessing a substance for possible control, or transfer between the Tables, as follows:

"If the Board, taking into account the extent, importance and diversity of the licit use of the substance, and the possibility and ease of using alternate substances both for licit purposes and for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, finds:

"(a) That the substance is frequently used in the illicit manufacture of a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance;

"(b) That the volume and extent of the illicit manufacture of a narcotic drug or psychotropic substance creates serious public health or social problems, so as to warrant international action, it shall communicate to the Commission an assessment of the substance, including the likely effect of adding the substance to either Table I or Table II on both licit use and illicit manufacture, together with recommendations of monitoring measures, if any, that would be appropriate in the light of its assessment."

6. Furthermore, article 12, paragraph 2, of the 1988 Convention states that the "procedure described in paragraphs 2 to 7 of this article shall also apply when a Party or the Board has information justifying the deletion of a substance from Table I or Table II, or the transfer of a substance from one Table to another".

7. In making its assessment of potassium permanganate, in accordance with the above-mentioned paragraphs of the 1988 Convention, the Board had at its disposal the information contained in its notification submitted to the Secretary-General, as well as comments and supplementary information received from Governments pursuant to article 12, paragraph 3. Forty-seven States, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) of China and the European Commission had responded to the questionnaire sent out by the Secretary-General. The respondents included six States that manufactured potassium permanganate and 23 that exported the substance or were trans-shipment points.

8. In conducting the assessment, the Board has taken the following factors into consideration:

(a) Potassium permanganate is manufactured and traded in large volumes to all regions of the world;

(b) Potassium permanganate has a wide variety of licit uses and cannot be easily replaced in commercial processes;

(c) The extensive licit trade patterns of potassium permanganate enable traffickers to target any country in the world as a potential source of diversion for the substance;

(d) The routes of diversion identified for potassium permanganate are diverse;

(e) Potassium permanganate is already under some form of control at the national level in most countries;

(f) The major countries manufacturing and exporting potassium permanganate are complying with General Assembly resolution S-20/4 B on the control of precursors, and are supplying pre-export notifications to countries that have submitted such a request to the Secretary-General;

(g) Two major trans-shipment points, Hong Kong SAR of China and Singapore, are furthermore supplying pre-export notifications for all shipments of

potassium permanganate, whether or not the importing country has requested such notification.

### C. Findings

9. In view of the above-mentioned factors, the Board finds that:

(a) The importance of potassium permanganate in illicit manufacture is well established, and it is recognized as being essential in the illicit manufacture of cocaine, and as the chemical of choice sought by traffickers. Similarly, the public health and social problems created by cocaine remain an issue that warrants international action;

(b) The diversity of the licit trade routes and the large number of countries to which licit trade is carried out offer traffickers the opportunity to divert potassium permanganate from international trade in any country in the world. The use of pre-export notifications, as proven during the current voluntary initiatives, allows shipments to be tracked internationally and ultimately prevents diversions;

(c) Although the volumes of potassium permanganate traded internationally are large, the number of operators conducting international trade and the number individual transactions for the substance are not so large. Therefore, supplying pre-export notifications would not have an adverse effect on industry and licit trade;

(d) Since the major exporting and trans-shipment countries are already supplying pre-export notifications for shipments of the substance, the introduction of pre-export notifications as a treaty obligation would not place an undue burden on competent authorities;

(e) The transfer of potassium permanganate from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention should not have any adverse effect on the availability of the substance for licit purposes at the national level, as the provisions of article 12, paragraph 10 (a), only concern international trade. Governments are responsible for implementing their own controls at the national level, and those national controls should be structured in a manner that ensures the continuing availability of the substance for licit requirements.

## **D. Recommendations**

10. The Board finds that the utilization of pre-export notifications as described in article 12, paragraph 10 (a), of the 1988 Convention is required to limit the availability of potassium permanganate to traffickers and subsequently to reduce the quantity of cocaine manufactured. Furthermore, the introduction of pre-export notifications as a treaty requirement for the substance will facilitate licit international trade by expediting the clearance of shipments, without adverse effects on the availability of the substance for licit purposes at the national level. The Board therefore recommends that potassium permanganate be transferred from Table II to Table I of the 1988 Convention.

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**Policy directives to the United Nations International  
Drug Control Programme**

**Activities of the United Nations International Drug Control  
Programme****Report of the Executive Director***Summary*

The present report provides an overview of the strategic direction of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and of the main activities undertaken during 2000 in support of the efforts of the international community in implementing the global strategy agreed upon at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly. UNDCP played a catalytic role in initiating and supporting action at the national, regional and international levels through a portfolio of technical cooperation programmes supported by a network of field offices located in key regions and countries. It promoted subregional cooperation and acted as an honest broker in furthering bilateral cooperation and direct consultations between Governments. It also mobilized specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations, the international financial institutions, other intergovernmental organizations and civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, to mount a global response to the drug problem.

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\* E/CN.7/2001/1.



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## **I. United Nations International Drug Control Programme: strategic direction and action**

1. During 2000, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) supported the international community in implementing the global strategy agreed upon at twentieth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in June 1998. At the special session, the Assembly promulgated a global strategy based on a balanced approach, with demand reduction and supply reduction as mutually reinforcing elements. It also adopted a Political Declaration (resolution S-20/2, annex), in which it called for the implementation, by 2003 and 2008, of the action plans and measures agreed upon at the special session.

2. The international drug control treaties remained central in the global strategy pursued by UNDCP, and one of its priorities was to assist States in complying with their provisions. UNDCP gave particular attention to assisting Governments in improving judicial cooperation in countering the world drug problem, in particular by providing training to law enforcement personnel, national administrations, judges, magistrates and prosecutors, as well as personnel working in the field of demand reduction. In response to requests from Governments, UNDCP provided direct support to Governments in the prosecution of serious drug-trafficking offences, including money-laundering.

3. The Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction (resolution 54/132) serves as a guide to Member States in achieving a significant reduction in the demand for drugs by the year 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session. The General Assembly has called on UNDCP to assist Member States in reaching those objectives. As many Governments lack sufficient knowledge of the extent and pattern of drug abuse occurring within their borders, they have been encouraged and supported in establishing an epidemiological infrastructure that will provide a solid database on the drug abuse situation, and will serve as a strong basis for, and promote best practices in, prevention and treatment measures. UNDCP is working closely with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs

and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and specialized agencies of the United Nations system such as the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

4. UNDCP supported the efforts of Member States in implementing a series of initiatives to meet the objective, agreed upon at the special session, of eliminating or significantly reducing the illicit cultivation of the opium poppy, coca bush and cannabis by the year 2008. Those initiatives included business plans being developed by Governments, principally in south-east and south-west Asia, and UNDCP as part of a broad set of strategies to reduce globally the illicit supply of and demand for drugs, on the basis of a balanced approach. UNDCP continued to engage donor countries and the international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, in support of alternative development. Landmark progress towards meeting the objectives set at the special session was being made by several Governments, including those of Bolivia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Pakistan and Peru, where illicit cultivation of the opium poppy or the coca bush had been significantly reduced.

5. UNDCP served as the substantive secretariat of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-third session and inter-session meetings, and assisted the Commission in initiating the process whereby all States will report biennially on their efforts to meet the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008, agreed upon at the special session. UNDCP sent the biennial questionnaire to all Member States and an analysis of their replies is contained in the first biennial report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session (E/CN.7/2001/2), submitted for the consideration of the Commission. As the substantive secretariat of the International Narcotics Control Board, UNDCP supported the Board in monitoring the functioning of the international drug control system and the flow of precursors.

6. In 2000, the financial situation of UNDCP continued its upward trend since 1998, when income, which had been declining since 1992, increased by

35 per cent over that of 1997. During the biennium 1998-1999, income further increased by 37 per cent to 142 million United States dollars (\$). During the biennium 2000-2001, income is expected to continue that positive trend and is projected to reach \$144 million. Using its increased income, a reflection of the trust of the international community in its technical capacity, UNDCP strengthened its role as both a catalyst and advocate, motivating Governments to take action in the field of drug control through a balanced portfolio of technical cooperation activities. During 2000, UNDCP further improved its efficiency, as reflected in the ratio of programme resources to allocations for support activities.

7. It supported national efforts and initiatives, giving particular attention to activities to reduce or eliminate illicit cultivation of narcotic crops through alternative development, strengthening of national capacities in demand reduction, institution-building and the establishment of coordinating and planning entities.

8. UNDCP field offices played a catalytic role in encouraging Governments, specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and religious institutions, to sustain their commitment to action against the drug problem. They were instrumental in delivering a wide portfolio of technical assistance programmes covering demand reduction, supply reduction, the suppression of illicit trafficking and measures to ensure the full implementation of the international drug control treaties and the achievement of the objectives agreed upon at the special session. They assisted Governments in adopting and implementing comprehensive national drug control plans and, through a network of memoranda of understanding, promoted cooperation between States at the regional level, in particular cross-border cooperation.

9. The emphasis of the assistance programmes is adjusted in response to national and regional concerns and priorities. However, the thrust of the operational activities includes capacity-building at the national and regional levels, fostering cross-border cooperation through regional cooperation, supporting non-governmental organizations in demand reduction activities (including rapid assessment surveys and programmes targeting street children and sex workers),

fund-raising and promoting the adoption and implementation of national drug control legislation to enable Governments to fulfil their treaty obligations. UNDCP works closely with the Centre for International Crime Prevention, within the framework of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat (ODCCP), on issues concerning drug-related crime.

## **II. Operational activities**

### **A. Sub-Saharan Africa**

#### **1. Policy support, legislation and advocacy**

10. UNDCP enhanced its support for the formulation and implementation of country or regional programmes in Africa. The programme portfolio for southern and eastern Africa expanded, with a comprehensive regional framework integrating demand reduction, control measures, judicial development and cooperation. In eastern Africa, the current priority is drug demand reduction, with programmes planned for the suppression of illicit trafficking. UNDCP initiated an African umbrella programme for demand reduction to support the development of major programmes for the prevention of drug abuse and the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in various subregions of Africa. In pursuing a balanced approach, UNDCP renewed its efforts to develop law enforcement expertise and capacity in Africa. A law enforcement programme coordinator based in Nigeria will support and coordinate the delivery of law enforcement assistance to African countries, in particular in western and southern Africa.

11. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) plan of action for drug control continues to serve as the framework for UNDCP cooperation with OAU. At a meeting held in Algiers in February 2000 to review implementation of the plan, African drug control experts agreed that the services of the drug control focal point in the OAU secretariat would continue to be available to Member States after the expiry of the UNDCP project. The OAU database on African drug control experts, training centres and research institutes, developed with UNDCP support, was in its final phase, and would be available to African Governments, UNDCP and interested external parties.

12. To strengthen judicial and prosecution capacities in cooperation with the Southern African Development Community, UNDCP initiated, in October 2000, a regional legal assistance programme for the 19 States of southern and eastern Africa. In eastern Africa, national drug control plans were finalized in Kenya, Madagascar and the Republic of Tanzania.

13. To better respond to the drug control problem in west Africa, a comprehensive multi-year regional programme was initiated in close cooperation with the African Anti-drug Programme of the European Commission. The objective is to improve national and regional drug control coordination and to take effective demand reduction and law enforcement measures at regional and country levels. UNDCP, in cooperation with the European Commission, assisted in the formulation of national drug control strategies for implementation in Benin, the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Togo. To strengthen national capacity in drug control, training was provided to national drug control coordinators from States of central Africa and to selected members of the judiciary from west Africa.

## **2. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse**

14. To strengthen country-based demand reduction programmes, UNDCP supported the development of networks of local demand reduction experts in eastern and western Africa. Demand reduction activities were also contained in programmes for southern and western Africa and north Africa. In southern Africa, the first of 10 community centres for counselling, treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers in South Africa was inaugurated in Soweto, and two additional centres will be established in Mpumalanga and Eastern Cape provinces. To facilitate efforts to determine the extent of the drug abuse problem, UNDCP provided for rapid situation assessments in Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal and South Africa. An assessment is also planned for Swaziland. In Burkina Faso, UNDCP provided training to community leaders and social workers in drug abuse prevention.

15. In east Africa, UNDCP cooperated with Governments to assist non-governmental organizations in improving their outreach programmes at the grass-roots level. The Non-Governmental Organization Resource Centre will facilitate networking of non-governmental organizations, among themselves and

with government agencies, and their undertaking of drug abuse prevention activities. In western Africa, three regional initiatives to address drug abuse prevention and awareness among young people were initiated. At the national level, drug abuse prevention will be included in the curricular of primary and secondary schools, and in outreach programmes of youth counselling centres. Those activities will be undertaken with the support of the population and family life education programme of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

16. In Nigeria, national efforts focused on demand reduction, including linkages between drug abuse, HIV and acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). Rapid drug abuse assessments were completed in 22 states of Nigeria. A programme aimed at strengthening drug treatment and rehabilitation centres of the Government of Nigeria, non-governmental organizations and traditional healers started in 2000, following a survey conducted on the quality and needs of existing treatment and rehabilitation services.

## **3. Suppression of illicit drug trafficking**

17. Several African Governments have expressed the need to strengthen the capacity of their national competent authorities to monitor and regulate national distribution channels. The capacity of the national competent authorities in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania is being strengthened to better control the supply and distribution of licit narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in cooperation with the Board and WHO. The initiative is expected to be expanded to cover other countries in the region.

18. To counter the increasing use of the mail system for drug trafficking and other serious organized crime, UNDCP launched a new initiative, in collaboration with the Universal Postal Union, starting with the region of western Africa. It will involve the development of cooperation agreements between the post office, customs and police agencies. Postal employees, customs and other law enforcement personnel will be trained in identification, interdiction and procedural techniques.

19. To strengthen the interdiction capacity of law enforcement agencies in African countries, in particular those used as strategic points for the transit of illicit drugs, UNDCP, in cooperation with the

Customs Cooperation Council (also known as the World Customs Organization), has undertaken a programme to enhance the capacity of major ports in eastern and southern Africa. New anti-drug units were established in the ports of Dar es Salaam (United Republic of Tanzania), Durban (South Africa) and Mombasa (Kenya), and improved port control procedures were introduced in Maputo. The provision of training, advice and equipment to control teams in those four ports was completed in 2000. The new units made major drug seizures in 2000. Training and equipment are being provided to a new port unit in Djibouti, to be completed in early 2001. Support will be extended to law enforcement authorities in other ports in the region.

20. Several Governments in Africa are concerned about the illicit cultivation of cannabis and several of them have taken countermeasures. In southern Africa, UNDCP provided technical and advisory support to Malawi, South Africa and Swaziland, to carry out assessment of the extent of cannabis cultivation in the region.

## **B. North Africa and the Middle East**

### **1. Policy support, legislation and advocacy**

21. In the Middle East, UNDCP initiated a subregional drug control cooperation programme to support the efforts of States in the eastern Mediterranean to counter the drug problem. In April 2000, a memorandum of understanding on cooperation was signed with the secretariat of the Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior to support judicial and other cooperation at the regional level. In May 2000, UNDCP and the Naif Arab Academy for Security Sciences agreed on a programme of cooperation in the Middle East to promote the sharing of expertise through joint training seminars, the exchange of information, studies and publications.

22. UNDCP supported the initiative of the Palestinian Authority to harmonize drug control legislation on the basis of the UNDCP model laws, and provided legal training to prosecutors in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice of Egypt. Training of prosecutors was also conducted in the Syrian Arab Republic. In north Africa, assessment missions were undertaken to Algeria, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Sudan, with

the objective of drawing up national drug control master plans.

### **2. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse**

23. In the Middle East, UNDCP assisted Governments in assessing their capacities and needs for treatment and rehabilitation of drug abusers. In cooperation with the World Food Programme and UNICEF, UNDCP worked on cross-cutting issues, such as drug abuse among street children and supporting the establishment of networks of non-governmental organizations to support initiatives for the prevention of drug abuse.

24. Training workshops on treatment and rehabilitation were held in the Palestinian Autonomous Areas and a seminar was conducted to share the findings of a rapid drug abuse assessment.

### **3. Elimination of illicit crops and suppression of illicit trafficking**

25. In Lebanon, UNDCP provided support to sustain the successful eradication of illicit poppy cultivation in the Bekaa valley, in cooperation with interested donors, other agencies and the Government. It also initiated activities to strengthen the interdiction capacity of the Lebanese police. A training course on advanced law enforcement techniques was conducted and equipment was provided.

26. In Egypt, the Government continued its efforts to prevent illicit cultivation of cannabis and opium poppy in the Sinai peninsula and to combat illicit drug trafficking. In support of a government initiative, UNDCP conducted a baseline assessment of socio-economic structures in the main areas of illicit cultivation. UNDCP worked with the Government of Jordan to strengthen its drug law enforcement capacities; it also provided specialized training courses to the United Arab Emirates on the control of precursors.

## **C. Central and eastern Europe**

### **1. Policy support, legislation and advocacy**

27. In the Russian Federation, UNDCP completed the implementation of the first phase of a comprehensive programme on the prevention of drug abuse and

countering drug-related organized crime. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNDCP assisted the Government with the review and preparation of new drug control legislation.

## **2. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse**

28. In central Europe, UNDCP assisted with the training of health-care professionals in approaches to treatment. It also assisted in building a network of researchers and establishing a database on patterns of and trends in drug abuse, which will serve as a basis for planning and evaluation of demand reduction activities in the region. UNDCP, in cooperation with ILO, completed activities to promote drug abuse prevention in the workplace in six States of central Europe.

29. On the basis of situation and needs assessment missions undertaken in States of eastern Europe, demand reduction programmes were formulated for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Over 25 drug abuse treatment providers and health professionals from Belarus, the Republic of Moldova and the Russian Federation were trained in modern techniques and methodologies for the treatment of drug addictions, with the assistance of a non-governmental organization.

30. UNDCP initiated a school-based prevention programme in three Baltic States. Materials for use by students and teachers were prepared by country teams. A drug abuse prevention manual for teachers was also published and distributed for teachers in the Russian Federation.

## **3. Suppression of illicit trafficking**

31. UNDCP provided technical support to enhance the organizational and operational capacities for drug law enforcement in the five States of central Europe that were parties to a memorandum of understanding signed in Prague in October 1995. In central Europe, UNDCP continued its initiative to strengthen judicial cooperation, following up a seminar, held in Slovakia in September 1999, with a second meeting, held in the Czech Republic in September 2000, between authorities from States of central Europe

32. UNDCP, with the support of the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) and in close

cooperation with the Poland-Hungary Aid for the Reconstruction of the Economy (PHARE) programme of the European Commission, assisted the Governments of Bulgaria, Romania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in establishing drug intelligence units. The initiative contributed to the significant increase in drug seizures in the region. A subregional workshop held in Croatia in October 2000 focused on joint analysis of operational intelligence for the investigation of trafficking networks and trafficking of bulk consignments of cocaine and hashish in containers. UNDCP formulated a plan to support a policing approach in which intelligence would play the leading role in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Slovenia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, at the request of the Governments concerned.

## **D. South Asia**

### **1. Policy support, legislation and advocacy**

33. UNDCP continued to support a nationwide survey in India, which started in late 1999. During 2000, training was provided for data collection, the finalization of a rapid situation assessment and the launching of a drug abuse monitoring system to collect information and plot trends. UNDCP also provided technical support for the national household survey of drug abuse carried out in 2000 on the basis of a sample of households. With assistance from UNDCP, drug control legislation in Nepal was amended to comply with the international drug control treaties.

### **2. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse**

34. Two community-wide programmes aimed at reducing and preventing drug abuse among the general population, high-risk groups and drug abusers on a nationwide scale were implemented in India. UNDCP mobilized support for a major risk group in the north-eastern provinces. In the field of drug abuse prevention in the workplace, the Association of Resource Managers against Drug Abuse, established in 1999, held two meetings in 2000, with the participation of 80 representatives of enterprises and non-governmental organizations.

35. A five-year plan for drug abuse control was initiated in Bangladesh, and a treatment and

rehabilitation training package was provided for organizations participating in two training courses. Material for advocacy and drug education, including training guidelines and resource books, was prepared and distributed through the Ministry of Education. In Sri Lanka, UNDCP and WHO cooperated in the provision of training and in supporting data collection, preventive services and treatment and rehabilitation activities. A drug abuse monitoring system was established to cover general hospitals, prisons and outreach and drop-in centres.

### **3. Suppression of illicit trafficking and elimination of illicit crops**

36. The results of a survey conducted in 2000 on illicit opium poppy cultivation in north-eastern India were presented to the international community in New Delhi. Despite eradication campaigns, illicit opium poppy cultivation has persisted because of its traditional use and as a source of income.

37. At the subregional level, UNDCP supported initiatives to foster cross-border cooperation between drug law enforcement agencies in India and Myanmar. The cooperation network will be extended to include Bangladesh. To facilitate training, a video on the control of precursors and controlled delivery was produced and distributed to law enforcement agencies and training institutions in India. In Bangladesh, 188 officials from the judiciary and police service received training which contributed to enhancing cooperation between agencies dealing with drug-related cases.

## **E. East Asia and the Pacific**

### **1. Policy support, legislation and advocacy**

38. The subregional action plan covering Cambodia, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and UNDCP, the signatories to a memorandum of understanding signed in 1993, provided the framework for cooperation in drug control matters. The programmes pursued under the subregional action plan were concerned with capacity-building, data collection, the dissemination of information, amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), drug abuse and HIV/AIDS, precursor control, law enforcement training and cross-border cooperation.

39. The illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of ATS, mainly methamphetamine, are spreading in east and south-east Asia. ATS have become the most commonly abused drugs in Japan, the Philippines and Thailand. UNDCP has been engaged in initiatives to assist Governments in east and south-east Asia, a subregion faced with the growing threat of illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of ATS and their precursors, but with a limited subregional framework to meet the challenge. The conference on Amphetamine-type Stimulants in East and South-East Asia, hosted by the Government of Japan and held in Tokyo in January 2000, recommended actions to be implemented by Governments of the region and in other parts of the world to counter the increased illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of ATS. That initiative contributed to the landmark commitment to tackle the drug problem undertaken by the States members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China at the meeting entitled "International Congress: In pursuit of a drug-free ASEAN 2015: Sharing the vision, leading the change", jointly convened by the Government of Thailand, ASEAN and UNDCP, and held in Bangkok from 11 to 13 October 2000. The International Congress was held in the light of rising concern among ASEAN leaders about the growing drug problem in the region due to the rapid spread of newly emerging drugs, in particular ATS.

### **2. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse**

40. Within the framework of the subregional project, six workshops were held in Cambodia, China, Myanmar and Thailand on the methodology for conducting national drug abuse assessments and for data collection, and on the use of related software systems for data analysis. Several school surveys were also conducted in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam. UNDCP continued to support, through a subregional programme, initiatives to reduce drug abuse among selected highland ethnic minority groups through consolidated pilot community-level activities across 17 sites in five countries. In late 2000, UNDCP presented the results of the subregional programme to reduce drug abuse and related social problems among high-risk groups at a meeting convened in the United States of America by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

41. A number of demand reduction activities in the Lao People's Democratic Republic took place in the context of community-based alternative development initiatives, targeting areas affected by illicit opium cultivation. Following a national survey on opium production and addiction, workshops on drug prevention were held, and posters, information boards and leaflets on drug prevention were prepared and distributed within the target area. A community-based programme in Xieng Khouang province enhanced social services in the participating 55 villages, including the provision of training for health volunteers and of materials to the district detoxification centre.

42. In Myanmar, UNDCP continued to support preventive education, focusing on injecting drug use in Kachin State, through the dissemination of information and communication materials. Over 300 persons were enrolled in the participatory learning and activities organized by UNDCP in cooperation with a non-governmental organization, World Concern International, while community-level activities involved 27 villages and over 1,000 village participants.

43. In Viet Nam, an educational curriculum for drug abuse prevention and materials for training primary schoolteachers were finalized. Other initiatives included the convening of a national forum on drug treatment and rehabilitation in Hanoi to discuss treatment alternatives best suited to Viet Nam, a training course for master trainers and seven courses for 92 participating treatment professionals.

### 3. Suppression of illicit trafficking

44. Law enforcement activities continued to constitute a major part of UNDCP subregional cooperation. Most modules of the computer-based, interactive training programme in drug law enforcement were completed, in collaboration with the World Customs Organization. Demonstration CD-ROMs were shared with interested donors and potential users. The training, management and evaluation system was improved following field-testing in northern Thailand.

45. UNDCP played a catalytic role in promoting cross-border law enforcement cooperation in the south-east Asian region. It served as an honest broker in facilitating a meeting in April 2000 between the law

enforcement authorities in Myanmar and Thailand. One of the most pressing concerns was the trafficking in precursor chemicals and the illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of ATS. Seized methamphetamine samples were exchanged to improve cooperation in drug profiling, and equipment was provided to drug law enforcement agencies in Myanmar to upgrade their communications capability.

46. During 2000, UNDCP pursued several other law enforcement programmes, in particular those aimed at strengthening the operational capacity of agencies and the collection and exchange of information. The performance of central drug intelligence units established in several countries improved steadily. In cooperation with agencies such as Interpol and the World Customs Organization, an initiative was launched to prepare model guidelines for police and customs interventions in countering illicit drug trafficking in States parties to the regional memorandum of understanding.

47. Yunnan Province of China is directly affected by illicit traffic from Myanmar. To support the law enforcement authorities, UNDCP delivered communications and training equipment for the Public Security Bureau Training School. Seizure data supplied by the Government indicate that some of the large seizures of heroin and precursor chemicals made in the province were due to the increased mobility and better training of law enforcement personnel.

48. The subregional precursor control programme for east Asia was completed and a second phase will start in 2001. During 2000, training on the setting up of a national precursor database system was provided to the six States signatories to the memorandum of understanding. Forty-six Cambodian nationals were trained in the use of precursor testing kits, and a handbook on precursors was published in both Khmer and English. Furthermore, five senior Chinese officials undertook a tour to study the precursor control systems in Germany and the Netherlands, and 56 experts attended a regional conference on precursor control in Hanoi in April 2000.

49. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the number of drug samples examined at the forensic laboratory in Vientiane, mainly methamphetamine, opium and heroin, more than doubled from the 1999 level, following the completion of a UNDCP forensic laboratory programme. A second phase of the

programme, to increase training and establish a second laboratory to serve the southern provinces of the country, will begin in 2001. A programme to strengthen overall drug control capacity continued with the establishment of a comprehensive data collection system. New drug control legislation was adopted and the secretariat of the Lao National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision was strengthened after training and equipment was provided. In Viet Nam, interdiction capacities were enhanced through the procurement of telecommunications and drug-detection equipment for three provinces and the provision of training. Further training in interdiction methods was given to nearly 2,100 law enforcement officers through 39 courses.

50. To strengthen the judicial and prosecutorial capacity in the region, five national workshops were held in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam for judges, prosecutors and senior investigators in each country. The first annual meeting of the Mutual Legal Assistance Advisory Committee facilitated cooperation between the competent authorities. UNDCP provided the authorities in Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam with legal advice on updating or drafting new drug control legislation.

#### **4. Elimination of illicit crops**

51. An in-depth study of alternative development in Thailand was launched to review and document the experiences of one of the countries with the longest record of activity in the subregion.

52. In Myanmar, the Wa initiative completed its first phase, having established basic infrastructure, including the construction of water supplies and schools, and launched several community-based activities. The initiative included agricultural development, income-generating activities and a programme of immunization covering over 90 per cent of children in 236 villages. A community-based programme for drug demand reduction was completed and the training of local teams enabled its replication in other villages. Teachers were provided with training in school management and introduced to new teaching methods and education materials. A sample area covering all households in 121 villages was surveyed.

53. The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic continues to work towards the goal of total

eradication of opium poppy cultivation within six years. UNDCP provided the Government with financial and technical assistance in cooperation with other international and regional organizations and bilateral donors. The alternative development activities in the Lao People's Democratic Republic have reduced dependence on opium production and consumption. For example, in Oudomxai province, during 2000, a combination of baseline surveys, training and provision of equipment was undertaken in the provincial, district and community-level administration. Development activities in the targeted villages focused, *inter alia*, on agricultural extension, health, livestock and non-formal education services, as well as community-based detoxification programmes. Gender training sessions and training in livestock-raising and crop cultivation also took place. Economic opportunities were expanded for participating villagers who undertook small-scale agriculture and animal husbandry to reduce dependence on opium poppy cultivation.

54. In Viet Nam, a four-year alternative development programme targeting the poppy-cultivating Ky Son district completed its pilot phase in 2000. After four years in operation, the programme had contributed to significant improvements in living conditions in three communes. A grass-roots participatory approach was adopted, through which the farmers identified their priorities and planned and implemented projects. The programme assisted in building local capacity through training, providing support to schools, health stations and water supply schemes and improving rural roads. In cooperation with several United Nations and other agencies, it also contributed to improving livestock and agricultural practices, leading to higher income for farmers. In order to ensure the sustainability and expansion of its activities, the programme initiated a second phase in 2001.

55. In Myanmar, aerial photos taken during 1998-1999 were an integral part of the illicit crops monitoring programme. No new survey was conducted because of a lack of funds. However, a ground survey is being prepared to cover the 2000-2001 crop season. In the Lao People's Democratic Republic, UNDCP and the Government conducted a ground survey at both provincial and district levels. Socio-economic data were also collected and analysed.

## F. West and central Asia

### 1. Policy support, legislation and advocacy

56. According to the UNDCP annual opium poppy survey,<sup>1</sup> Afghanistan experienced a record increase in the area under opium poppy cultivation in 1999, reaching 90,583 hectares, an increase of 42 per cent over the previous year. That resulted in a record production of 4,565 tons of opium in Afghanistan in 1999, which brought the estimated total worldwide production of illicit opium to nearly 6,000 tons, a 60 per cent increase over the total of 3,750 tons in 1998. During 2000, cultivation decreased by 10 per cent to 82,172 hectares. Opium output in 2000 dropped to 3,275 tons, compared with the 1999 record level of 4,565 tons. Since Afghanistan accounted for 79 per cent of global opium production, the decrease observed in 2000 does not represent a substantial change in the global availability of opiates.

57. The situation in Afghanistan, notably during the past two years, constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region and beyond, undermining the political, economic and social stability of neighbouring States, in particular the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and the States of central Asia. Afghanistan has become the main source of opiates to those neighbouring States and to both eastern and western Europe. It is also the main source of heroin found in some States of the Arabian peninsula and eastern Africa.

58. The Security Council, following a briefing by the Executive Director, expressed its concern over the threat to the security of the region posed by the increased production and trafficking of opiates from Afghanistan. UNDCP worked closely with the "six-plus-two" group (consisting of the six States bordering Afghanistan plus the Russian Federation and the United States) to address the threat posed by the illicit production of opium to the security of the region. Following a technical meeting convened in Vienna by UNDCP in May 2000 and attended by representatives of the "six-plus-two" group and donor countries, a high-level meeting held in New York in September 2000 endorsed a regional plan of action with the objective of increasing cooperation between States bordering Afghanistan.

59. UNDCP aimed to strengthen interregional cooperation in combating drug trafficking in the region

of the Caspian sea, targeting the trafficking routes through Azerbaijan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Turkmenistan. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, officials from the Iranian drug-control-related institutions attended training on programme planning held in March and August 2000.

60. In Turkey, UNDCP supported the creation of the Turkish International Academy against Drugs and Organized Crime initiated in June 2000 to address the needs of 22 countries in the region. The Academy focuses on strengthening drug law enforcement expertise and provides training in dealing with such matters as money-laundering, controlled delivery and financial crime. It will make available international expertise and organize training courses to meet the needs of drug law enforcement agencies in countries in the region.

### 2. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse

61. Demand reduction, with the focus on abuse of opiates, in particular heroin, is an integral part of the UNDCP pilot programme for Afghanistan. UNDCP published a comparative study of Afghan heroin addicts in Peshawar and Quetta. An assessment of the drug abuse problem in rural areas was undertaken. Several training courses in drug awareness and drug abuse prevention were carried out, a day-care drop-in centre was established for Afghan heroin addicts in Peshawar and a community-based treatment, rehabilitation and prevention programme was launched in an Afghan refugee camp near Peshawar.

62. Within the guidelines of the five-year national strategy to reduce drug demand, the Islamic Republic of Iran continued to focus on the integration of the activities of the leading institutions concerned with national issues relating to drug abuse, as well as on the decentralization of initiatives to control drug abuse. Four workshops were organized by UNDCP in August 2000, with the participation of representatives from government ministries, non-governmental organizations and other concerned organizations, to address the role of non-governmental organizations in drug abuse prevention, in harm reduction, in dealing with the social impact of drug abuse, and in devising a strategy to reduce drug demand. In Pakistan, UNDCP gave particular attention to supporting the implementation of the national drug control master plan adopted

in February 1999. UNDCP supported the Government in launching, in January 2000, a rapid assessment of the drug abuse situation. The assessment is expected to provide up-to-date information on the current drug abuse situation and to assist in the formulation of strategies and interventions to address drug abuse problems.

63. UNDCP initiated a rapid situation assessment programme to provide the States of central Asia with the basis for a sound strategy to address the drug problem from a regional perspective. One of the objectives of the project is to identify priority needs for the population and to exploit synergies between national and international actions in the area of demand reduction. The close cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and UNESCO at national, regional and global levels has enhanced the complementarity and cost-effectiveness of activities in the field of demand reduction. Furthermore, in April 2000, UNDCP started to provide training to enhance the capability of the mass media in States of central Asia to raise public awareness of the adverse effects of drug trafficking and abuse.

### **3. Elimination of illicit crops**

64. The UNDCP annual opium poppy survey of Afghanistan indicated a decrease of about 10 per cent in opium cultivation in 2000 compared with 1999, when poppy cultivation reached a new record level of over 90,000 hectares. It was encouraging to note a reduction of about 50 per cent in Kandahar province, including three UNDCP target districts, where alternative development assistance had been provided since 1997. UNDCP continued to urge the Taliban authorities to take action against illicit cultivation and, as a result, about 100 hectares of opium poppy were eradicated along the Torkham-Jalalabad road in Nangarhar province. In July 2000, the Taliban issued a total ban on opium poppy cultivation during the 2000/2001 planting season. UNDCP will monitor the implementation of the ban through the annual poppy survey to assess its impact on cultivation and production.

65. In Pakistan, opium poppy cultivation was eliminated in the Dir district of the North-West Frontier Province in 1999, an encouraging result that

was sustained in 2000. The government of the North-West Frontier Province was commended for achieving a zero harvest in the primary traditional poppy-growing areas of Dir, Bajaur and Mohmand. However, new cultivation in the Khyber region was a cause for concern. About 600 acres of opium poppy were harvested in that area, preventing Pakistan from reaching its target of a zero poppy harvest in the year 2000. UNDCP cooperated with the Government of Pakistan in the formulation of a strategy for a programme covering a 5- to 10-year consolidation phase to succeed current activities in the Dir district, to sustain the achievements made in the elimination of the opium poppy and to continue development assistance to the area.

66. In central Asia, mapping the extent of illicit cultivation in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan was completed in March 2000. It showed that cooperation between UNDCP and the three Governments had led to a reduction of illicit cultivation in those countries, and that the major source of supply of opium and heroin was Afghanistan.

### **4. Suppression of illicit trafficking**

67. UNDCP has initiated the establishment of a so-called security belt around Afghanistan, with the aim of containing and reducing the alarming flow of drugs being trafficked from that country into neighbouring countries and stopping precursor chemicals used in heroin manufacture from reaching clandestine laboratories. The approach combines national and regional programmes designed to strengthen the drug control capacity of neighbouring countries and their efforts to intercept illicit drugs from Afghanistan.

68. To give effect to the concept of a security belt, UNDCP has established a number of regional coordination mechanisms to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of regional law enforcement activities. In 1999, UNDCP initiated a programme to establish a drug control coordination unit at the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in Tehran. ECO will serve in the region as the main medium for training of law enforcement agencies, including personnel from the customs services and prosecutors. In that context, the national drug control authorities of the ECO member States and UNDCP representatives convened two meetings, held in Tehran in February 2000, of the task force on drug control of ECO and the

coordination unit. The second meeting was devoted to illicit crop monitoring and border control.

69. The five States of central Asia, under the aegis of UNDCP, signed a memorandum of understanding to strengthen cooperation between their national authorities. That initiative has led to the sharing of intelligence, the promotion of controlled deliveries and the exchange of information on drug abuse and trafficking. Furthermore, a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in drug control was recently concluded between Armenia, Georgia, the Islamic Republic of Iran and UNDCP. Another initiative was the International Conference on Enhancing Security and Stability in Central Asia: An Integrated Approach to Counter Drugs, Organized Crime and Terrorism, held in Tashkent in October 2000. The Conference, sponsored by ODCCP and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, adopted a declaration endorsing a set of priorities for cooperation between the States of central Asia in the field of drug control, organized crime and terrorism.

70. The security belt approach entailed the coordination of activities at the national level. National projects include strengthening border controls and cross-border cooperation, improving the analysis of information and training customs and border personnel in effective techniques for searching vehicles, containers and cargoes. To that end, UNDCP launched three programmes in Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, with supporting activities covering legal assistance, precursor controls, demand reduction and advocacy. A regional programme to decrease heroin production by reducing the illicit diversion of precursors and essential chemicals was initiated in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. UNDCP organized the Central Asian Conference on Diversion of Chemicals into Illicit Drug Trafficking, held in Bishkek in November 2000, to foster international and interregional cooperation against the diversion of chemicals into the illicit drug trade. Law enforcement officials from China, India, Turkey and States of central Asia and Europe, as well as representatives of the International Narcotics Control Board and Interpol, attended the Conference. In Kazakhstan, UNDCP supported the elaboration of a national master plan that culminated in the establishment, in February 2000, of the Drug Control Agency, which has responsibility for combating drug trafficking and abuse.

71. Programmes initiated by UNDCP to promote cross-border cooperation between Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have disrupted the drug-trafficking route from the Afghan-Tajik border to Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan. Radio communications equipment and drug search devices were installed, connecting law enforcement units along the common borders of the three countries. UNDCP also cooperated with the Governments of the region in designing activities to strengthen the capacities of drug law enforcement agencies in the collection of data and information and in promoting the technique of controlled delivery. In Kyrgyzstan, UNDCP focused on strengthening the drug control capacities of law enforcement units in Batken province, in view of the increased drug trafficking from Afghanistan through the neighbouring mountainous area of Tajikistan. In Tajikistan, UNDCP is also assisting in the establishment and operation of a national drug control agency to enable the Government to combat drug trafficking. Two other programmes to strengthen national law enforcement capacities as a tool for cross-border cooperation are under way in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan.

72. The first phase of a three-year drug law enforcement programme to reduce drug trafficking in Pakistan and the region as a whole strengthened cooperation between Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, while at the same time extending cooperation to the States of the Persian Gulf. Activities at the sub-regional level were complemented by efforts at the national level to strengthen law enforcement agencies, to improve the performance of drug-testing laboratories, and to assess the scale of money-laundering. Within the framework of the strategy to combat drug trafficking, equipment was delivered to Iranian law enforcement authorities and training was provided to upgrade technical skills. To promote cooperation among law enforcement agencies in the region, two international conferences attended by drug liaison officers from States in the region, hosted by the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in cooperation with UNDCP, were held in Tehran and Mashad.

73. Support being provided to the States of central Asia is already yielding dividends. In Turkmenistan, opium seizures increased from 1.4 tons in 1998 to 4.6 tons in 1999, and, in Uzbekistan, from 1.9 to 3.3 tons during the same period. In Tajikistan, the

provision of \$2.6 million in assistance by UNDCP for the establishment of a drug control agency led to a 70 per cent increase in drug seizures in 2000. The increase in seizures of heroin was even more striking, with a rise of 450 per cent to reach 1.5 tons, equivalent to the amount seized in the United States in recent years. The main trafficking routes from Afghanistan into Tajikistan have been seriously disrupted.

74. The high rate of seizures in the region, in particular by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, is a strong indication that programmes to reduce illicit drug trafficking are most effective when organized close to the source of illicit production, along the border with Afghanistan. By providing those front-line States with better training, information and equipment, seizure rates could be increased with relatively modest financial inputs, while preventing the loss of human lives.

## **G. Latin America and the Caribbean**

### **1. Policy support, legislation and advocacy**

75. The Barbados Plan of Action for Drug Control Coordination and Cooperation in the Caribbean serves as the central framework for cooperation by States of the region among themselves and with the donor community. A review of sectoral progress in implementing the recommendations of the Barbados Plan of Action, held in May 2000, concluded that while substantial progress had been made at the regional level, progress at the national level had been less significant, largely because of the constraints imposed by limited resources. In 2000, UNDCP continued to support cooperation in regional law enforcement programmes, including judicial cooperation and demand reduction programmes at national and regional levels.

76. In Central America, subregional drug control cooperation improved during 2000. The Permanent Central American Commission for the Eradication of the Illicit Production, Traffic, Consumption, and Use of Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (CCP) played an important role in facilitating regional cooperation in drug control. UNDCP actively participated in that process, focusing on legal and judicial assistance, prevention of drug abuse and advocacy.

### **2. Prevention and reduction of drug abuse**

77. In Central America, UNDCP cooperated with national drug control bodies, non-governmental organizations, other United Nations agencies, the media and private enterprise to reduce drug demand, with particular emphasis on prevention. To raise awareness of the adverse effects of drug abuse and to mobilize civil society, a regional music contest was organized, with nearly 600 songs received from all over Central America competing in the event. Public concerts were organized and a compact-disk recording of the award winners was produced.

78. In the Caribbean, UNDCP launched a regional communication and advocacy programme consisting of a variety of activities on the theme "sports against drugs". Other important initiatives included a public information programme undertaken with the Caribbean News Agency and community-level activities led by the Caribbean Council of Churches. UNDCP, in cooperation with the Health and Family Life Education Programme (HFLE) of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), supported the training of trainers in Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. About 20 regional team trainers and 67 national facilitators from education, health, youth and community services were trained in methods of improving coordination and delivery of HFLE programmes in their different countries. A revised HFLE curriculum, including AIDS preventive education, was prepared for publication and use in primary and secondary schools.

79. UNDCP supported the finalizing of national integrated demand reduction programmes, including community development and training in the field of prevention, in the Bahamas, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago. During 2000, rapid assessment surveys were carried out in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, and a survey of treatment and rehabilitation in prisons was completed in the Bahamas. In Trinidad and Tobago, treatment services were provided with training and equipment.

80. At the subregional level, UNDCP was instrumental in promoting common methods and standards for epidemiological surveillance under a project based on the memorandum of understanding on subregional cooperation in drug control signed by Argentina,

Bolivia, Chile, Peru, Uruguay and UNDCP. The initiative will support the first national household and school-based surveys of drug abuse in Argentina, Peru and Uruguay, and contribute to the modernization of drug abuse information systems throughout the region, in order to allow cross-country comparisons of prevalence, incidence and trends. In the course of the year, subregional drug control cooperation in Central America also improved, and CCP continued to play a catalytic role in promoting regional integration in drug control. In July 2000, CCP member States signed the declaration of Guatemala, which defined methodologies for cooperation in reducing drug supply and demand. The UNDCP programme for Central America includes projects in drug abuse prevention with both Governments and non-governmental organizations, the provision of legal advice and judicial training and assistance to forensic laboratories.

81. In Peru, UNDCP continued to assist the Government in school-based prevention under the integrated drug abuse prevention programme in primary education, implemented by the Ministry of Education. About 800,000 pupils were reached throughout the country as a result of training provided to 4,300 teachers. Two surveys on drug abuse among adolescents were completed, the findings of which contributed to fine-tuning educational material and prevention programmes for schools. Four non-governmental organizations implemented the prevention programme in Lima, targeting children and adolescents at risk, with the involvement of street educators, youth leaders and parents in 11 marginal urban areas.

82. In Bolivia, UNDCP continued to support the inclusion of drug abuse preventive education in the curricular established under the education reform plan. The ongoing initiative on drug abuse prevention was carried out in 36 municipalities, and was expected, when completed, to have provided for the training of 25,000 people, including teachers and pedagogic assistants, as well as members of parents' associations. The joint UNDCP-UNICEF activities for the protection of the rights of children and young people and for drug abuse prevention were extended until the end of 2000. The objective was to support the establishment of ombudsman offices to protect the rights of children and youth, as well as to promote drug abuse prevention.

83. In Colombia, UNDCP supported the creation of multisectoral committees for drug control and the

implementation of regional drug prevention plans. Several non-governmental organizations were supported in undertaking small programmes at the local level. Technical assistance was provided to non-governmental organizations working on drug demand reduction in Colombia and Ecuador, with the support of grants from the Drug Abuse Prevention Centre of Japan through UNDCP and of other small contributions for technical assistance to support demand reduction.

84. UNDCP continued to support the Brazilian drug demand reduction strategy to counter drug abuse and HIV/AIDS. One of the objectives of the prevention strategy pursued in that context was the participation of 47,000 workers from 48 enterprises in the drug and alcohol abuse prevention model developed jointly by Social Service of Industry (the Brazilian employers' federation), UNDCP, ILO and WHO. In response to the HIV/AIDS problem, Brazil continued to implement UNDCP-supported drug abuse and HIV/AIDS prevention activities, mostly financed by the Government with World Bank support. The activities undertaken included prevention, counselling, anonymous HIV screening, treatment, research, the provision of information and advocacy.

85. A United Nations inter-agency demand reduction programme was initiated in Guyana. Three community centres served as focal points for demand reduction activities, including the mobilization of youth groups for education in drug awareness, sports activities and drug counselling. Preliminary meetings took place on establishing an addiction studies programme at the University of Guyana.

86. In the Dominican Republic, UNDCP assisted the national drug prevention programme in decentralizing and extending its activities to provinces throughout the country. In Haiti, a school and street youth survey in Port-au-Prince produced quantitative results, to be supplemented by a qualitative analysis of both target groups. A workshop was also held to assist non-governmental organizations in planning drug demand reduction programmes. The information gathered will establish the framework for initiatives in demand reduction.

87. In April 2000, UNDCP initiated a multisectoral drug control programme in Cuba, including a drug prevention component. Expert advice was provided to the Ministry of Health on matters relating to drug abuse prevention programmes, curriculum

development, control of pharmaceutical products and epidemiological surveillance. In Nicaragua, a baseline study was drawn up in the context of the prevention programme for children and adolescents at risk of drug abuse and sexual exploitation in nine municipalities. The results were expected to indicate the type of support needed by government and civil society entities in establishing a system of prevention and care for members of that group. It was planned to provide training to experts of the ministries of the family and of education, members of non-governmental organizations, community leaders and media workers. An estimated 900,000 children were expected to benefit from the programme.

### 3. Elimination of illicit crops

88. Following the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, the Governments of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru, with UNDCP support, formulated three individual business plans that combine the elimination of illicit drug crops with a full range of alternative development measures. Collectively, the three business plans consist of 18 projects, 12 of which are already being implemented. In total, UNDCP support for alternative development in the Andean region rose from \$4.1 million in mid-1998 to \$11.5 million in mid-2000. Between late 1998 and the end of 2000, UNDCP implemented alternative development activities in the Andean region amounting to about \$27 million.

89. UNDCP, together with other bilateral donors, has worked in partnership with the Government of Bolivia to implement the Bolivian "Dignity Plan", which provides for the total eradication of illegal coca crops by the year 2002. An important component of the Bolivian business plan is the agroforestry project in the Chapare region. Working together with the private sector and farmers' associations, UNDCP is demonstrating that the environmentally sound use of forests is a reliable and long-term source of income and employment for local residents. The ongoing agroforestry project in Bolivia was enlarged from a \$3 million budget in 1998 to a total budget of \$9.4 million in 2000, including a \$1.2 million cost-sharing contribution from the Government of Bolivia. Some of the new funding will deal with illicit coca cultivation in the Yungas, a region that is increasingly being used also for that purpose. The agroforestry project works directly with over 1,800 families in the

Chapare, organized as shareholders in forest management units, and supports the processing and marketing of forestry products, including timber and cash crops such as palm heart, oranges, passion fruit, rubber and bananas. The forestry management scheme now covers 4,250 hectares in the Chapare. Equally important, the project assists local and national authorities with the rehabilitation of soils previously degraded by coca cultivation. In late 2000, a province-level forestry technical centre was established in order to ensure, when the project is completed, the sustainability of the results achieved. The second project under the business plan for Bolivia, worth \$5 million, started in late 2000 and aims at training 8,500 young people in 350 training courses in different agricultural and non-agricultural professions, as well as supporting the integration of trained people into the labour market and promoting the creation of micro-enterprises. The third project under the business plan assists the Government of Bolivia in establishing an integrated national planning, management and monitoring system for alternative development and improved coordination of domestic and external resources.

90. Under the Peruvian business plan, UNDCP allocated \$6.4 million during 2000 to alternative development projects, including support to the national drug control body, CONTRADROGAS, and a national system for monitoring coca cultivation using satellite images, aerial photography and ground surveys. Alternative development projects cover four major coca-growing zones in the Lower Huallaga, the Pichis-Palcazu valleys (known as the Selva Central), the Inambari-Tambopata valleys (known as the Puno Selva) and the Apurimac valley. Technical assistance provided under the projects continued to focus on direct support to producer organizations, on technical packages for improving schemes for the production of traditional crops such as cacao and coffee, including a growing proportion of organically grown coffee, and on the exploration of niche products. During 2000, farm families received extension services and agricultural inputs under the projects. Business-oriented management practices for agro-industrial enterprises, in the production of palm oil and palm heart, have shown promising market potential. Furthermore, improved cattle-breeding was supported by UNDCP in the project in the Selva Central and in the remote Inambari-Tambopata region. However, because of financial constraints, the project activities

in the Apurimac, the Inambari-Tambopata and the Selva Central were carried out on a smaller scale than originally planned. Although some funding gaps could be bridged with funds received from donors during 2000, the budget situation remained difficult in early 2001. In addition, the tense political situation, as well as the social unrest emerging in the Huallaga in connection with government eradication campaigns, has at times slowed down the implementation process.

91. Under the Colombian business plan, UNDCP delivered \$2.3 million for alternative development activities during 2000. UNDCP continued to assist the Office of the National Alternative Development Plan (PLANTE) at the national, regional and municipal levels with the formulation and implementation of productive programmes for the seven districts earmarked for alternative development, as well as by strengthening organizations of agricultural producers. Emphasis was placed on ensuring that the projects are integrated into the regional and municipal development plans. Despite difficult conditions, UNDCP continued to support agricultural extension services reaching 2,200 families in the departments of Bolívar, Caquetá, Cauca, Nariño, Meta and Putumayo. A second project under the business plan, "Alternative development in Meta-Caquetá", which started in 1999, resulted in strengthening seven farmers' organizations. Each organization signed an agreement to eliminate illicit crops, in return for support to agricultural and livestock activities. UNDCP also continued its support for the establishment of a system for monitoring illicit crops to enable the identification and assessment of illicit coca and opium poppy cultivation, as well as progress made in alternative development. The system will produce nationwide data on illicit crops by the end of 2001.

#### **4. Suppression of illicit drug trafficking**

92. With assistance from UNDCP, the Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council (CCLEC) established the regional clearance system for the control of movement of vessels, with pilot workstations in Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago and at the Joint Intelligence Office in San Juan, Puerto Rico. CCLEC conducted a programme for the training of trainers, which focused on the use of software. Basic computer training and courses to enhance intelligence awareness were provided to customs personnel from 15 Caribbean States. Through CCLEC, UNDCP provided

training in risk profiling and targeting techniques to customs and port authorities in Curaçao, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. The training of officials from customs administrations and other law enforcement agencies, as well as those involved in the private sector and shipping agents, included practical exercises to detect the diversion of precursors.

93. As mandated by the Commission at its forty-third session, UNDCP facilitated the consultation process for the Caribbean Treaty to Suppress Illicit Maritime Trafficking, initiated by the Government of the Netherlands. A preparatory conference was held in Curaçao in November 2000, with negotiations on a text expected to be finalized in 2001. The Legal Affairs Committee of CARICOM, assisted by UNDCP, finalized the Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters. The eight Attorneys General from the eastern Caribbean agreed on the ground rules for mutual legal cooperation at a meeting held in Saint Lucia on 28 and 29 November 2000, sponsored by UNDCP, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States. The meeting also approved a checklist for requesting mutual legal assistance and endorsed the proposed Caribbean treaty on mutual legal assistance.

94. Members of the judiciary from Central American States were provided with training in judicial aspects of drug control in subregional workshops held in El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua. In the Dominican Republic, prosecutors and members of the National Drug Control Directorate have been trained under a national programme focusing on the investigation and prosecution of money-laundering offences. The training of prosecutors will be followed by training of judges. UNDCP assisted the Government by providing expert advice during key trials involving drug-trafficking and money-laundering cases. It also assisted in the design and development of a national judicial database.

95. Under the subregional forensic laboratory programmes for Mexico, the Caribbean and Central America, UNDCP provided equipment to analyse illicit drugs and their precursors, fellowships to train laboratory personnel and training courses to upgrade laboratory services. In the Caribbean, the Caribbean Council of Forensic Laboratory Heads was established to provide guidance on forensic matters. A new drug

control programme was initiated in Cuba, in April 2000, to provide expert advice in the design of a drug control curriculum for the police academy.

96. In support of the national drug control strategy of Bolivia, UNDCP supported the strengthening of the law enforcement capacity of four government institutions involved in precursor control, the final investigation and seizure of assets and the investigation of trafficking in precursor chemicals. Moreover, support was provided in equipping new border-control offices at strategic locations in the country.

97. In Brazil, a law enforcement programme under implementation since early 1998 began to show significant results. Equipment, including telecommunication devices and computers, was provided to the National Police Academy and its core staff. An extensive five-year training programme for 10,000 police officers was initiated in 2000, as well as training programmes for public security professionals. The training curriculum is available on CD-ROM to all police academies in Brazil and other interested institutions. In the state of Rio Grande do Sul, 990 police officers were trained. Three training courses for instructors were given to officers from 22 States.

98. Training courses in chemical precursor control were held for representatives of the private sector. A joint training programme on precursor control for police officers from Brazil and Colombia was organized. With the support of a UNDCP-assisted precursor control programme in Colombia, a training programme on the use of UNDCP field test kits and of seized drug samples as evidence in court trials was delivered to Brazilian laboratory technicians. Laboratory and computer equipment and vehicles were provided to several chemical control units and the National Criminology Institute of Brazil. Under the Integrated National System for Information on Justice and Public Security, all State systems concerned with criminal, penitentiary and drug-crime-related information are connected by e-mail.

99. In Colombia, UNDCP continued to provide assistance in precursor control through the training of more than 2,000 judicial and military police officers in the use of test kits and field-testing procedures. Early in the year, the programme was extended to the national police in Ecuador, where judicial police officers were trained and 50 drug precursor kits provided. Furthermore, the programme in Colombia

expanded its training syllabus and held a workshop on environmentally safe destruction and storage of precursors and seized illicit drugs. A post-graduate course in administration of justice, the investigation of drug trafficking and environmental protection was organized at Savan University.

### III. Thematic and other activities

#### A. Treaty adherence and follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly

100. During 2000, the Comoros, Georgia and Maldives became parties to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol,<sup>2</sup> bringing the number of parties to the 1961 Convention to 160. The Comoros, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Maldives became parties to the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,<sup>3</sup> bringing the number of parties to the 1971 Convention to 164. The Comoros, Estonia and Maldives became parties to the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,<sup>4</sup> bringing the number of parties to the 1988 Convention to 157.

101. Assisting Governments in becoming parties to the international drug control treaties and implementing their provisions play a central role in the strategy of UNDCP. UNDCP enhanced its programming and legal assistance to Governments in their efforts to become parties to the international drug control treaties, in particular the 1988 Convention, and to effectively implement their provisions. To optimize resources, regional legal advisers were assigned to the UNDCP field offices to improve the support provided to States in central Asia, Central and South America, and southern and eastern Africa. UNDCP supported Governments in promoting cooperation between judicial and law enforcement authorities, in order to improve the implementation of national laws, the application of practices and procedures and the conduct of casework. UNDCP collected and published the list of competent authorities designated under articles 7 (on mutual legal assistance) and 17 (on illicit traffic by sea) of the 1988 Convention, and completed the first phase of the establishment of an Internet database of national drug control legislation, which will make the laws more accessible for the purpose of information

exchange and research. With regard to the implementation of article 17, UNDCP, in December 2000, convened in Vienna an informal open-ended working group on maritime cooperation against illicit drug trafficking at sea. The meeting reviewed current trends in, and sea routes frequently used for, drug trafficking, and considered recent regional and subregional initiatives taken in that context. New initiatives to facilitate cooperation between competent national authorities were discussed.

102. Priority was given to supporting States with the investigation and prosecution of serious drug-related crime. UNDCP strengthened the competencies of prosecutors, magistrates and judges in Central and South America and central and eastern Europe. Building on UNDCP training of trainers in recent years, two justice training programmes were launched in south-east Asia and southern and eastern Africa. Those programmes transferred skills and best practices through both local and subregional judicial training institutions. UNDCP provided direct support to Governments by improving the capabilities and performance of prosecutors and judges. Experienced prosecutors were provided to mentor prosecution services in the Dominican Republic and South Africa, and to facilitate the conduct of the most important casework, dealing in particular with money-laundering cases, as in Antigua, Barbados and Jamaica.

103. Initiatives were taken to improve and strengthen cross-border and law enforcement judicial cooperation along major trafficking routes. UNDCP brought together the central authorities of States of the Caribbean and Central and South America to review their respective mutual legal assistance and extradition procedures. Remedial action was taken to remove practical obstacles limiting assistance between States and to avoid unnecessary errors and delays in handling requests.

104. In March 2000, UNDCP issued the report of the expert working group on improving the intersectoral impact on drug abuse offender casework, which identified the success factors associated with drug treatment courts and international best practices for their planning, establishment and operation. UNDCP supported two States during the year with expert advisory teams drawn from drug treatment courts to assist them in establishing new pilot courts within their own jurisdictions.

105. UNDCP served as the substantive secretariat to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, assisting the Commission in discharging its functions as the governing body of UNDCP, the main policy-making body in drug control issues, a treaty organ and functional commission of the Economic and Social Council. UNDCP also cooperated with the secretariats of the Council and the General Assembly in assisting those bodies in their consideration of the drug issue. UNDCP assisted the Commission in initiating a process whereby all States would report biennially on their efforts to meet the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008, agreed upon at the twentieth special session of the General Assembly. The Commission will analyse those reports in order to strengthen cooperation in combating the world drug problem. A questionnaire for reporting on the action plans and measures was sent to all States. A total of 81 questionnaires received from Member States are covered in the first biennial report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly (E/CN.7/2001/2), submitted to the Commission pursuant to its resolution 42/11.

## **B. Support to the International Narcotics Control Board**

106. UNDCP served as the substantive secretariat of the Board, which it assisted in monitoring the international drug control system in close cooperation with Governments. In the field of precursor control, UNDCP provided legal advisory services and electronic support services to the secretariat of the Board, as well as laboratory services, in particular profiling work on samples of potassium permanganate. The substantive work of the Board was further supported by the UNDCP field offices and technical assistance programmes, with a particular focus on precursor control. UNDCP provided information to the Board in the preparation and release of its annual report for 1999,<sup>5</sup> a major role being played by the UNDCP field offices. UNDCP further supported, administratively, the preparation of the three technical publications by the Board, dealing, respectively, with narcotic drugs, with psychotropic substances and with precursors and chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

107. The UNDCP precursor control programmes assisted national regulatory and law enforcement authorities, enabling them to strengthen the implementation of legislation to prevent the diversion of precursor chemicals, and coordinate related activities at the national and international levels. In particular, greater emphasis was given to law enforcement and operational issues, such as the detection of smuggling or diversion of precursor chemicals, conducting investigations and sharing the information resulting from investigations. The UNDCP programmes in support of precursor control, implemented, in close cooperation with the Board, especially in south-east, south-west and central Asia, have contributed to the establishment of mechanisms and procedures for precursor control at the national and regional levels.

108. The Board convened a meeting on acetic anhydride, hosted by the Government of Turkey in Antalya in October 2000, with the objective of preventing diversions of that substance from licit trade. The meeting was attended by national competent authorities of States that are major manufacturers and traders of acetic anhydride, States that seized acetic anhydride and those located in areas where illicit manufacture of heroin occurs. The meeting initiated an international tracking programme for acetic anhydride, known as "Operation Topaz", similar to the earlier programme for potassium permanganate, known as "Operation Purple".

### C. Research and laboratory activities

109. The UNDCP database on estimates and long-term trend analysis became operational. On the basis of the data provided by Member States through the annual reports questionnaires, UNDCP surveys and other sources, the database provides comprehensive data on the worldwide drug problem and on trend analysis, which are used in the preparation of a statistical and analytical publication entitled *Global Illicit Drug Trends*. Work also continued on the joint data-sharing programme, involving UNDCP, Interpol and the World Customs Organization, to create a common and expanded database on individual seizure cases. Other UNDCP research activities included the provision of expertise and data to the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, to help estimate the magnitude

of money-laundering. In collaboration with the Technical University of Vienna, the Rand Drug Policy Research Center, and EMCDDA, UNDCP hosted a workshop entitled "Dynamic Drug Policy: Understanding and Controlling Drug Epidemics". The workshop discussed the use of mathematical and statistical models to understand and predict drug market trends in order to provide policy makers with a tool to test policy options, target interventions and forecast treatment requirements. Another research project undertaken in cooperation with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research was concerned with the institutional framework for bodies dealing with demand reduction programmes and its impact on the drug abuse situation in the countries concerned. The project concluded with an expert group meeting held in Prague in February 2000, and with the establishment of a network of social science researchers who are expected to monitor and evaluate the structures of drug control institutions.

110. The second *World Drug Report*<sup>6</sup> was finalized and published. The report describes and explains the extent and development of the drug problem and the important progress that has been made in recent years towards mitigating its impact. Illustrated with numerous maps, graphs, charts and tables, it provides a unique insight into the realities and extent of the international drug problem. A double issue of the *Bulletin on Narcotics* was prepared for publication, comprising a collection of occasional papers devoted to the economic and social costs of substance abuse.

111. UNDCP developed international standards and guidelines to enhance the capacity of Member States in drug testing, and to promote close collaboration between national laboratory services and law enforcement, judiciary and health authorities. During the reporting period, eight national drug-testing laboratories were strengthened in Central America and Mexico; one in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and three in Pakistan. Technical support was also provided to drug-testing laboratories in Benin and Cape Verde, and to UNDCP training centres in China, Ghana and Trinidad and Tobago.

112. UNDCP continued to acquire reference samples of precursors and illicit drugs to support the analytical functions of drug-testing laboratories and their activities under the International Collaborative Exercises within the International Quality Assurance

Programme. More than 800 reference substances under international control and their metabolites were provided to national drug-testing laboratories in 29 countries. In support of law enforcement authorities, more than 800 drug and precursor testing kits were produced and distributed to law enforcement agencies in 23 countries. Military police officers in peace-keeping operations were also provided with training in the use of field-testing techniques and the recognition of various illicit drugs.

113. To promote agreed standards and harmonized analytical methods, UNDCP distributed the manuals on recommended methods for testing drugs, the *Multilingual Dictionary of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Under International Control*,<sup>7</sup> its addendum and other scientific publications worldwide. In addition, copies of selected articles on controlled substances were provided to national drug-testing laboratories worldwide. UNDCP continued its emphasis on quality and good laboratory practices by encouraging national drug-testing laboratories to pursue excellence in their performance. The results are reflected in the number of laboratories currently enrolled in the International Collaborative Exercises. Two hundred laboratories worldwide have requested participation in the exercise, allowing them to check their own performance and to compare it with that of peer laboratories. A total of 160 drug-testing laboratories have participated, representing an increase of 400 per cent since 1995.

114. UNDCP organized training in laboratory methods for the identification and analysis of drugs at national level in Beijing and in its regional training centre in Trinidad and Tobago. Training courses were planned for drug analysts from Mexico and Central America in Argentina, El Salvador and Mexico, as well as in collaborative institutions in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Finland. In addition, study visits were organized for scientists from Costa Rica, Egypt, Estonia, Ghana and the Russian Federation to a number of collaborative institutions in Vienna. UNDCP also continued its activities in the area of drug characterization and impurity profiling, aimed at supporting the operational and intelligence-gathering capacity of law enforcement authorities. A manual on drug characterization and profiling was published and a meeting on its use by law enforcement authorities was organized in south-east Asia.

## D. Money-laundering

115. UNDCP, through the ODCCP Global Programme against Money Laundering, promoted regional coordinating mechanisms to transfer expertise between jurisdictions. That approach facilitated the delivery of technical assistance and the building of strategic relationships with a large number of countries and organizations. The Global Programme continued working closely with organizations playing important roles in the fight against money-laundering, including the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, the Egmont Group (an informal international umbrella organization for financial intelligence units), the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force, the Asia-Pacific Group on Money Laundering and the Caribbean Development Bank. The Global Programme launched a United Nations global initiative to prevent the misuse of international financial centres for the laundering of criminal proceeds at a conference for jurisdictions providing international financial services, held in the Cayman Islands in March 2000. A communiqué issued by the States and territories participating in the conference called for a global and non-discretionary approach to the adoption of internationally accepted standards of financial regulation and measures against money-laundering. By the end of 2000, 33 States and territories had made a formal commitment to join the United Nations in a global initiative to adopt internationally accepted standards. Those States qualify to receive technical assistance in matters relating to establishing or enhancing their capacity to counter money-laundering. In that regard, a major project was initiated in cooperation with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States to establish a regional financial intelligence unit. The project builds on the Global Programme focus on subregional initiatives, which, in 2000, included the organization of workshops for the States of the Persian Gulf and the Andean subregion. The Global Programme organized, in Lima, a workshop for Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela on the regional coordination of anti-money-laundering initiatives. The Global Programme, in conjunction with the Egmont Group, hosted, in Vienna in January 2001, a regional workshop for about 150 financial intelligence unit officers.

116. A mentor was placed in Barbados to assist with the establishment of a financial intelligence unit and in

Jamaica and to develop the capacity to prosecute money-laundering offences leading to the seizure and forfeiture of assets. Arrangements were made to provide similar assistance to Antigua. Support was provided to the Bahamas in the establishment of a financial intelligence unit.

117. In western Africa, support was provided in the establishment of a regional anti-money-laundering coordinating mechanism, the Intergovernmental Task Force against Money Laundering, to foster a more comprehensive approach to counter money-laundering in the region. Another programme, developed in cooperation with the Central Bank of West African States and other regional counterparts, will support anti-money-laundering efforts of individual countries through the adoption of legislation and training.

118. In Haiti, support was provided to a government initiative to raise awareness of money-laundering and in the drafting of anti-money-laundering legislation. The judicial capacity in the Dominican Republic was strengthened, and provision was made for an assessment of the money-laundering situation. The Global Programme worked with the Government of Israel on the development of legislation against money-laundering, and advised on the establishment of a financial intelligence unit. The Global Programme continued to work on enhancing the web site of the International Money Laundering Information Network (IMoLIN) and the Anti Money Laundering International Database (AMLID). Use of that ODCCP web site has risen dramatically, reaching more than 2,000 visits per week.

## E. Demand reduction

119. In accordance with the priorities identified by the Commission at its forty-third session in the field of demand reduction, UNDCP, through its Global Youth Network against Drug Abuse, continued to support young people in finding solutions to drug abuse problems in their communities. An electronic discussion forum was set up and the first edition of a newsletter with input from young people around the world was published. The first three issues of the quarterly newsletter *Connekt* covered the abuse of Ecstasy and designer drugs, drug abuse prevention and the role of sports in demand reduction. A booklet on how to organize youth events against drug abuse was

published, building on the experiences of the Youth Vision Jeunesse Drug Abuse Prevention Forum, held in Banff, Canada in April 1998. The booklet was designed to help Governments and non-governmental organizations involve young people in policy-making and programme activities.

120. The first modules of a handbook on the design of prevention programmes were developed. A needs assessment and programme development workshop was held in New Delhi, with the participation of representatives of youth programmes in south Asia, resulting in the establishment of a South Asia Network of Youth against Drug Abuse. In Mexico, an international seminar was organized for youth programmes focusing on using the performing arts to prevent drug abuse. The results will be published in handbook form.

121. The UNDCP and WHO Global Initiative on Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse focused on young people and local communities, producing a training manual for non-governmental and community-based organizations. Training programmes to enable action at the community level was launched in Belarus, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania, Thailand, Viet Nam and Zambia.

122. UNDCP continued its collaboration with WHO to explore the health and social consequences of ATS abuse in connection with Ecstasy abuse in the Russian Federation and other States in central and eastern Europe. It addresses ATS abuse by occupational groups, such as truck drivers in Africa and in south-east Asia. The issue of how to develop better treatment responses to problems caused by methamphetamine abuse in south-east Asia is also receiving attention.

123. In collaboration with WHO and EMCDDA, UNDCP published guidelines and workbooks on the evaluation of drug abuse treatment. UNDCP in collaboration with WHO prepared a publication on drug abuse treatment within the primary health-care system. With a view to helping States plan their own drug abuse treatment services, a practical step-by-step guide for strategic planning of such services was initiated.

124. The UNDCP Global Assessment Programme on Drug Abuse assisted countries in respect of data collection and analysis. The Global Assessment

Programme was implemented in eastern and southern Africa and central and western Asia. Regional epidemiological advisers supported capacity-building and coordinated training, networking and data collection at regional and national levels. To facilitate that work, an epidemiological toolkit was being developed to offer guidance on data collection techniques, with a focus on the topics covered in the revised annual reports questionnaire (part two). Forthcoming toolkit modules would cover prevalence estimation methods, school surveys, treatment reporting systems and strategies for establishing a drug information system.

125. UNDCP supported research activities concerning possible linkages between drug abuse and HIV/AIDS. In that context, UNDCP has been active in the International Partnership against AIDS in Africa and has implemented, in collaboration with other United Nations agencies, several global, regional and national programmes addressing HIV/AIDS and drug abuse. With the support of WHO, a study on drug abuse and HIV/AIDS was conducted in Nigeria. Preliminary results indicated a greater prevalence of HIV/AIDS cases related to intravenous drug use than expected. UNDCP also supported an in-depth assessment of drug abuse among commercial sex workers and street children in Lagos and three other major cities. The final results of the assessment were expected to be available in early 2001.

126. In central Asia, UNDCP, in conjunction with UNAIDS, carried out AIDS prevention programmes in five countries, assisting the Governments in the development and management of their programmes to prevent HIV/AIDS, drug abuse and sexually transmitted diseases. In order to formulate a comprehensive strategy for central Asia, UNDCP started to collect data on the extent and nature of drug abuse among the population of each country of the region. In India, a joint programme was drawn up, involving UNDP, UNAIDS, ILO and UNESCO, to address the high rate of HIV/AIDS transmission among injecting drug users, and a number of training activities were held.

127. Under a programme addressing prevention of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS transmission among high-risk groups in Viet Nam, implemented by the National Committee on AIDS, a three-day meeting of peer educators, representatives from *Médecins Sans*

*Frontières* and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation was organized. A report on social and medical characteristics of drug abuse and HIV/AIDS was finalized and endorsed by the Viet Nam chapter of an association known as People Living with HIV/AIDS. A series of public information materials was produced, including the first ODCCP brochure on links between drug injection and the transmission of HIV. A number of posters on the theme of "Sports not Drugs" were also produced, depicting two famous sports personalities, following the signing of cooperation agreements between UNDCP and the United States national basketball and soccer associations. With a view to facilitating the exchange of experiences among experts dealing with HIV, UNDCP and UNAIDS have jointly developed a publication in English and Russian on drug abuse and HIV/AIDS in central and eastern Europe and the central Asian States.

## F. Suppression of illicit drug trafficking

128. The information on seizures, arrests, trafficking, illicit manufacture and diversion received by UNDCP from Governments and international organizations were reviewed, collated and analysed. Other sources of information on drug production and trafficking were identified, and, in that connection, the Board was integrated into the data-sharing programme established in 1999 between UNDCP, Interpol and the World Customs Organization to facilitate the inclusion of precursors in future analyses of supply trends.

129. UNDCP served as the substantive secretariat to the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, in particular at the thirty-fifth session of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, held in Antalya, Turkey, the Tenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Ottawa, and the Twenty-fourth Meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific, held in Yangon. UNDCP organized working groups on specific law enforcement priorities to facilitate the linkage between the law enforcement issues under consideration and the objectives of the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session. UNDCP provided technical law enforcement expertise and assistance, including

on-site support to programmes in the Caribbean, southern Africa, and central, south and south-east Asia, to enhance the capacity of Governments in countering illicit drug trafficking. A strategic priority was the enhancement of cross-border cooperation between law enforcement agencies.

130. UNDCP global alternative development activities focused on the identification, analysis and development of best practices. In that connection, a database was established on UNDCP alternative development programmes and evaluations, which support the design of new programmes and the identification of programme indicators, benchmarks and training.

131. UNDCP continued to monitor progress in gender mainstreaming and the role of community organizations in alternative development. In January 2000, the results of the expert workshop on gender mainstreaming in alternative development were presented in a document on guidelines on best practices for gender mainstreaming in alternative development. It reviewed knowledge and experiences on the gender situation in illicit drug cultivation areas and was used for training and programme development. UNDCP also prepared a strategic study on the role of women in opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan.

132. A comparative study was begun on the contribution of community organizations to alternative development in selected areas of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Peru, to support policy development and to ensure the effectiveness of mainstreaming participatory approaches. Another study was initiated to identify and analyse opportunities and constraints in UNDCP cooperation in alternative development programmes in south-east Asia. It aimed at identifying best practices and promoting the incorporation of alternative development objectives into the programmes and strategies of other potential counterparts and agencies already working in the targeted region.

133. UNDCP reviewed alternative development activities in Afghanistan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon and Myanmar. Technical support was provided to new alternative development activities in Bolivia and Peru. A joint mission was conducted by the Government of India and UNDCP to the north-eastern State of Arunachal Pradesh to assess the extent of illicit opium cultivation and the feasibility of

alternative development measures. A comprehensive strategy for alternative development is being developed in that area.

134. In response to the request of the General Assembly and the Commission, UNDCP launched a global illicit crops monitoring programme consisting in: (a) a global support subprogramme, based at UNDCP headquarters, to ensure that data collected is comparable at the global level; and (b) six national subprogrammes for the countries in which the bulk of illicit crop cultivation occurs, namely, Afghanistan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar, in Asia, and Bolivia, Colombia and Peru, in Latin America. The aim is to assist countries in establishing, by 2001, monitoring systems that would be able to produce internationally comparable data and benchmarks by which to measure progress towards the eradication goals set for 2008. The programme will also allow quick detection of a possible "balloon effect", that is, a situation in which the reduction of drug crops in one area triggers the start up of cultivation in a previously less-affected region. The four-year programme was initiated in January 2000, with the technical cooperation of the European Space Agency.

## **G. Inter-agency cooperation and advocacy**

135. In 2000, UNDCP continued to promote the mainstreaming of drug control issues into the work of other agencies, according to their mandates. Consultations continue to take place with other agencies with a view to pooling resources and several collaborative activities have been started. The latter included the participation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Pan-American Health Organization/WHO in alternative development activities in Colombia; joint United Nations programming for the rural development of the Bekaa valley in Lebanon; and the integration of a demand reduction component in activities undertaken by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific against sexual abuse and exploitation of minors in the Greater Mekong subregion. UNDCP also continued to work closely with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, ILO, UNESCO and WHO in a variety of programmes.

136. UNDCP continued to take part in the country-based Common Country Assessment (CCA)/United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) which is leading to more systematic joint programming. As of September 2000, 56 per cent of the 55 completed CCAs and 72 per cent of the completed UNDAF exercises addressed the drug problem.

137. The third interparliamentarian meeting on drug control, the "International Drug Summit", was organized in cooperation with the United States Congress and held in Washington, D.C., in February 2000. Parliamentarians from Canada, Japan, the United States, Europe and South America, as well as government representatives and international experts, attended the meeting. The meeting issued a statement affirming that international cooperation was a critical part of effective drug control, and recognized that UNDCP had an essential role in addressing the global challenges of the drug problem. It also recognized the successes that had already been achieved, and recommended that all countries should continue their support for, and increase their contributions to, the Fund of UNDCP.

138. Cooperation with the Asian Development Bank was strengthened during 2000, with the introduction of drug control activities into rural development activities in the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The Bank also began to address drug problems within the framework of technical assistance in the Greater Mekong subregion.

139. The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was celebrated worldwide. Public information material in conjunction with the theme of the event in 2000, entitled "Facing reality: denial, corruption and violence", were produced.

140. UNDCP maintained a dialogue with non-governmental organizations, while promoting the participation of those and other civil society organizations in drug control strategies and related activities at the national level. The new edition of the UNDCP world directory of non-governmental organizations working in drug demand reduction will strengthen networking among non-governmental organizations. UNDCP also made information on non-governmental organizations accessible through its web-site database.

141. Four issues of the quarterly newsletter *Update* were published, featuring articles on major drug control and crime prevention issues, research, country-level UNDCP activities and interviews. Furthermore, a new comprehensive UNDCP web site has been designed and was launched in December, including audio and video elements. Related work focused on creating web sites for all 22 UNDCP field offices.

## IV. Administration and finance

### A. Monitoring and evaluation

142. UNDCP has elaborated new evaluation procedures, taking into consideration the views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions. UNDCP will follow a flexible approach, one that strengthens ongoing evaluations at the project level, and focuses also on specific country or subregional programmes, or on technical issues when required. To ensure maximum objectivity, primary reliance would be placed on external, independent evaluators.

143. Thirty-four programmes were evaluated during 2000, compared with thirty-seven programmes during the entire 1998-1999 biennium. Independent experts conducted 28 evaluations. The other six were small programmes that are usually not subject to external evaluation. In addition, one thematic programme evaluation on best practices for gender mainstreaming in alternative development was conducted, comparing lessons derived from programmes in three regions. Evaluation findings are used by UNDCP to improve programme implementation and design, in particular at field level.

144. To improve the financial management of its programmes, UNDCP will put into operation its programme and financial management information system, covering its financial transactions and mapping its business processes. The software system will considerably improve the financial management of the resources entrusted to UNDCP, with a view to obtaining reliable information on, and ensuring better analysis of, the financial status of its programmes worldwide.

## B. Financial status

145. The biennium 1998-1999 represented the start of an upward trend, with income increasing by 37 per cent to \$142 million, reversing several years of decreases. Income during the biennium 2000-2001 is expected to continue that positive trend and is projected to reach \$144 million. Nevertheless, the bulk of the increase has been, and is expected to continue to be, special-purpose resources, despite significant efforts by UNDCP to obtain more general-purpose resources from traditional and non-traditional sources. Significant increases are anticipated from cost-sharing. With a lower general-purpose fund balance and a continued low level of general-purpose income that barely covers support costs, programme activities will inevitably depend even more heavily on special-purpose resources in the future, making it difficult to maintain the mandated balance in programme priorities. A better balance between general- and special-purpose income is therefore urgently required to enable UNDCP to respond quickly and flexibly to new programme challenges and opportunities, as well as to sustain a minimum level considered necessary for the biennial support budget.

146. As indicated in document E/CN.7/2001/9, total programme expenditure for the biennium 1998-1999 reached \$97.3 million, or 85 per cent of the approved budget of \$115 million. On the basis of the continued upward trend, it is expected that total project expenditure for the biennium 2000-2001 will reach \$118.6 million. It is therefore expected that programme delivery will increase by 22 per cent in 2000-2001 over 1998-1999.

147. UNDCP improved its efficiency in programme delivery as reflected in the balance in the use of resources, with 79 per cent going to programmes and 21 per cent to support activities. That represents an improvement over 1998-1999, when 72 per cent was spent only on programmes and 28 per cent on support activities. In 1996-1997, only 67 per cent was spent on programmes and 33 per cent on support activities. The cost of management remains under 5 per cent of total resources.

## C. Resource mobilization

148. UNDCP continued its initiative to broaden the donor base of the Fund of UNDCP and to mobilize an increasing number of Member States, the private sector, foundations and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the Fund in line with Commission resolution 10 (XXXIX). The total number of countries providing voluntary contributions to UNDCP was 52 in 2000. Pledges to the Fund in 2000 increased by 14 per cent compared to 1999. The Drug Abuse Prevention Centre, a Japanese non-governmental organization, remained the largest non-governmental contributor, providing approximately \$400,000 annually.

149. UNDCP continued to encourage countries involved in its technical programmes to assume an increasing share of the financial burden in national drug control activities. There has been a significant increase of cost-sharing in support of large drug control programmes in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Peru. The cost-sharing contributions for multi-year programmes in those countries reached almost \$15 million in 2000. An increasing proportion of the funds provided under cost-sharing arrangements continues to be drawn from loans from international financial institutions, notably the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

### Notes

<sup>1</sup> UNDCP Country Office in Afghanistan, *Annual Opium Poppy Survey 2000* (Islamabad, 2000).

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1019, No. 14956.

<sup>4</sup> *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November-20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

<sup>5</sup> *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.XI.1).

<sup>6</sup> *World Drug Report 2000* (New York, Oxford University Press, 2000).

<sup>7</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F/S.93.XI.2.